

## **HINKLEY POINT SITE STAKEHOLDER GROUP**

### **SUMMARY OF KEY POINTS ARISING AT THE EXTRAORDINARY GENERAL MEETING HELD VIA SKYPE ON FRIDAY 31 JULY 2020**

- The meeting was held via Skype due to the current circumstances associated with the Coronavirus epidemic.
- The meeting had been convened to provide members with early information on actions which were being planned by EDF to deal with decommissioning of Hinkley Point B once generation at the station had ceased.
- Mr Evans and Mr Cofield gave details of the facilities which were planned for construction on the site in order to be available for use during the decommissioning process once generation on the site had stopped. They also outlined proposals for public consultation and the approach to application for the necessary planning consent.

**HINKLEY POINT SITE STAKEHOLDER GROUP**  
**Minutes of the Extraordinary General Meeting held via Skype**  
**on Friday 31 July 2020**

**PRESENT**

Cllr M Caswell (Chairman)	-	Sedgemoor District Council
Mr P Montague	-	Site Director, Hinkley Point A, Magnox
Mr P Evans	-	Station Director, Hinkley Point B, EDF

**Elected Members**

Cllr Ms A Bown	-	Somerset County Council
Cllr B Eyley	-	Kilve Parish Council
Cllr Ms S Goss	-	Stogursey Parish Council
Mr A Jeffery	-	Bridgwater & W Somerset Green Party
Cllr C Morgan	-	Somerset West and Taunton Council
Cllr Ms R Perrett	-	Otterhampton Parish Council
Cllr M Phillips	-	Cannington Parish Council
Cllr E Plomgren	-	Holford Parish Council
Cllr L Redman	-	Bridgwater Town Council
Cllr M Reed	-	Nether Stowey Parish Council
Cllr J Roberts	-	Nether Stowey Parish Council
Ms M Smith	-	Forum 21
Cllr S Stretton	-	Spaxton Parish Council
Cllr Ms L Whetlor	-	Somerset West and Taunton Council
Ms A Reed	-	Wembdon Parish Council
Mr W Hawley	-	Fiddington Parish Council

**Co-opted Members**

Mr M Brown (Vice Chairman)

**Appointed Members**

Mr D Knowles	-	Office for Nuclear Regulation
Ms V Thomas	-	Environment Agency
Ms N Dawson	-	Somerset County Council
Ms L Martin	-	Somerset County Council
Mr J Burton	-	Somerset West & Taunton Council
Mr D Bamsey	-	Sedgemoor District Council

**EDF**

Mr N Cofield	-	Planning & Development Consents Manager
Mr D Stokes	-	Communications Officer
Mr D Uminski	-	Technical & Safety Support Manager
Ms L Pearson	-	Independent Nuclear Assurance Evaluator
Mr A Cockcroft	-	External Communications Manager

**Magnox**

Mrs J Callander  
Ms G Coombs

## **IN ATTENDANCE**

Mr M J Davis

- Secretary

### **Apologies –**

Mr R Davies, Civil Contingencies, Somerset Council, Ian Liddle Grainger MP

Terry Ayre, Mr M Laver , West Hinkley Action Group

## **PURPOSE OF THE MEETING**

- 1 Cllr Caswell welcomed all those members who were able to join this meeting. He said that the meeting was being held via Skype in the light of the circumstances associated with the Coronavirus epidemic. He said that the meeting had been convened to provide members with an early indication of actions which were being planned by EDF to deal with decommissioning of Hinkley Point once generation at the station had ceased.

## **HINKLEY POINT B OPERATIONAL UPDATE**

- 2 Mr Evans provided an update on the current operational situation at Hinkley Point B. He said that Reactor 3 had been shut down on 8 June and Reactor 4 on 21 February for planned maintenance and a programme of graphite inspection work. All inspection results had been within expectations as predicted by experts. The safety cases were being reviewed in the light of the inspection results and the outcome of that work would be submitted to the Office for Nuclear Regulation.

## **DECOMMISSIONING OF HINKLEY POINT B**

- 3 Mr Evans said that in a spirit of openness and transparency he wanted to provide members with an early indication of plans which were being made for the future decommissioning of Hinkley Point B. Current plans were for the station to stop generating electricity in 2023 and the proposals which were being outlined today covered the facilities which would be required to carry out defuelling of the two reactors after that time.
- 4 Mr Evans said that representatives of the Office for Nuclear Regulation and the Environment Agency had been invited to join this meeting but it would not be appropriate for members to question them on any of the proposals at this early stage.
- 5 Mr Evans said that he could anticipate a number of questions which might be uppermost in members and minds:
  - (i) In relation to the possible use of decommissioning facilities on the A station site he confirmed that this was being considered.
  - (ii) There were currently no plans to use the facilities to be provided at Hinkley Point B for wastes from other sites.

- (iii) The impact of the construction of the decommissioning facilities on road transport volumes in the vicinity of the site would be taken into account in the planning stages.
  - (iv) An environmental impact assessment would in due course take account of all potential impacts including issues relating to sea defences.
- 6 The outline programme for decommissioning indicated by Mr Evans was for enabling works including the demolition of existing structures and groundworks to take place during the current year and next year, with construction of the required waste facilities taking place in 2022/2023. Defuelling would take place after the end of generation and would take 3-4 years. Decommissioning and deconstruction would then take place between 2027 and 2035 with the site being in a care and maintenance state from 2035 onwards. Lessons learned from the decommissioning of the Magnox power station sites would be taken into account in the development of the proposals.
- 7 Mr Cofield outlined the facilities which would be required and the approach to be followed in planning and consultation. He explained the need for the three proposed waste facility buildings:
  - (i) An Operational Waste Processing Facility for stabilising and packaging wet higher active wastes including resins and sludges
  - (ii) An Intermediate Level Waste Store for the storage of waste from the processing facility
  - (iii) A Decommissioning Waste Processing Facility for the processing of dry low-level wastes which may then be shipped to a third party for treatment.
- 8 Mr Cofield said that the enabling works to take place during 2020 and 2021 would include demolition and site clearance, including moving some facilities which might still be required, and minor groundworks. It was proposed that this would be undertaken under permitted development rights, subject to the approval of this approach by the Somerset West and Taunton Council. Application would be made to the Council during August seeking confirmation that the the proposed works were within the scope of permitted development rights. Mr Cofield said that a similar application for such work at Hunterston B had been approved during the past week.
- 9 Mr Cofield said it was hoped that a document outlining the proposed scope of the environmental impact assessment would be submitted to Somerset County Council in September. This would then form the basis of the environmental impact assessment. He said that consultation on the proposals would take place in early 2021. It was not possible to be certain about the form this consultation would take in the current circumstances but feedback from the consultation would

- be taken into account in the preparation of the planning application. It was anticipated that the planning application would be made in 2021 and hoped that it would be possible to start construction at the end of 2021 in order that the facilities could be commissioned and available for use by the time generation ended in 2023.
- 10 Mr Evans invited any questions which members might wish to make at this meeting or alternatively to submit them to him in writing.
  - 11 Cllr Ms Goss asked whether much of the proposed construction work would coincide with peak construction activities on the C Station site. Mr Evans said that inevitably this work would be undertaken in parallel with C Station construction work. He suggested that the volume of construction traffic for these facilities would be relatively small but he undertook to provide SSG members with details of construction plans in due course.
  - 12 Cllr Ms Goss asked whether it would be possible to store B Station wastes in the waste storage facilities provided for Hinkley Point C. Mr Evans did not think this would be practicable but said that it would be considered along with the possible use of A Site facilities.
  - 13 Cllr Ms Goss understood that residents in the vicinity of Sizewell power station had some reservations about the approach adopted recently to public consultation on proposals relating to that site.
  - 14 Mr Evans undertook to contact Cllr Ms Whetlor, a new member who wished to leave the meeting; Cllr Caswell undertook to contact her to outline SSG arrangements.
  - 15 Ms Smith referred to difficulties which she and other members had had in accessing the Skype system used for this meeting. Cllr Caswell undertook to consider what other systems might be available for future meetings.
  - 16 Cllr Eyley asked about the funding arrangements for the decommissioning work and whether wastes might be transported from the site via the rail connection used for spent fuel discharges. Mr Cofield said that funding for the work was provided by the Nuclear Liabilities Fund into which the company had made regular payments. Mr Evans said that it might be necessary to make some modifications to the fuel route facilities to increase the rate of fuel discharges during defuelling.
  - 17 Cllr Caswell thanked everyone for their attendance and contributions at the meeting.

MJD  
31 July 2020