

**HUNTERSTON SITE STAKEHOLDER GROUP
SUMMARY OF KEY POINTS FROM THE FIFTY NINTH MEETING
HELD ON THURSDAY 4 MARCH 2021 ONLINE, ZOOM PLATFORM**

Chair's Opening Remarks and Vice Chair Updates and Correspondence

The Chair welcomed everyone to the online meeting. She reported on the new virtual Chairs and Vice Chairs Forum, attended by herself and the Vice Chair, on 26 February 2021. Terms of Reference had been discussed but not yet approved. They had also attended the first virtual Scottish Nuclear Sites meeting on 7 December 2020. There were concerns regarding the lack of consultation on the Scottish Higher Activity Waste Policy Review and changes of personnel within the Scottish Government's Radioactive Substances Team.

Actions and Approval of Previous Minutes

The Minutes of the virtual meeting of 3 December 2020 were approved and actions discharged.

Hunterston A Site Reports

Hunterston A Report – Mr Alastair Walker, Mr Ian Warner

The site's Total Recordable Incident Rate (TRIR) and time without a Lost Time Incident has remained at zero for 82 months. Mr Walker was pleased to report only a very small number of positive Covid cases, none of which were work-related transmissions. Magnox was shortlisted in the Nuclear Skills Academy Awards for its contribution to the community during Covid-19 and a video was shown of various Magnox sites' participation. This was Mr Walker's last attendance at a Site Stakeholder Group as Mr Mark Blackley takes over as Site Director. Mr Warner recapped on end state development work to date. Magnox has presented its preferred option to the NDA, of some on-site waste remaining, and this has been accepted by the NDA as an assumption. Further work is now being done on extent, nature, timing and consequences.

ONR Report

The ONR Report was circulated with meeting papers. Mr Kings was not present at the meeting.

SEPA Report

There was no SEPA report available and Mr Stone and Ms Hayes were not present at the meeting.

NDA Report – Mr John McNamara

Mr McNamara described changes in key NDA personnel and the NDA Group Leadership Team. He gave an overview of the NDA's direction of travel, including the NDA Innovation Competition and publication of the Draft Business Plan 2021-24. Two GDF Working Groups have been set up, in Copeland and Allerdale, both in West Cumbria. Several other communities have also expressed an interest, which are not in West Cumbria. Mr McNamara thanked members for input into Draft Strategy 4. There was a robust stakeholder engagement and consultation process and the virtual forums were found to be very effective, with more consultation responses received to Draft 4 than for Strategies 1, 2 and 3.

Scottish Government Update – Mr Pat McAuley

Mr McAuley described changes in personnel within the Radioactive Substances Team and undertook to provide the Secretariat with a Structure Chart and contact details for team members. He has been promoted and leaves the Team on 19 March. He introduced Diane Hamilton, who replaces James Fox. Concerns regarding a lack of consultation on the Scottish Higher Activity Waste Policy Review were noted. Due to a period of Purdah from 25 March until the election on 6 May 2021, it is likely to be late May / early June before there is a public consultation on the HAW Policy Review.

Hunterston B Station Reports

Hunterston B Report – Mr Paul Forrest

Reactor 3 was synchronised to the grid and generating since 31 August and Reactor 4 since 27 September. Reactor 3 would come off plant on 5 March and Reactor 4 on 26 March for a period of 40 days. Staff aspirational interviews have been completed and consultations with Trade Unions will begin. Some employees are being retrained for redeployment. Submission of an application for Planning Permission for new buildings and waste stores has been postponed to allow for discussions between EDF, NDA and BEIS. Conversations are positive and ongoing and hoped to be completed by the next meeting.

ONR Report – Mr Stuart Fannin

Two inspections in the period were graded green, with some areas for improvement. A systems based inspection on back end of fuel route resulted in an enforcement letter, issued to ensure compliance with operating limits. Reactors 3 and 4 have been operating safely and compliantly over the six month period and the support of the high performing team at Hunterston B was acknowledged. The ONR is still assessing the Safety Case for the final period of operation.

SEPA Report

There was no SEPA report available and Mr Hammond was not present at the meeting.

Any Other Business

Ms McGeorge advised that the Detailed Emergency Planning Zone (DEPZ) was agreed at a meeting of North Ayrshire Council on 16 December 2020. This has been set at 2km with the proviso that premises in the previous DEPZ, which was 2.4km, would remain in place. Letters to this effect have been written to all residents and business owners.

Next Meeting – Thursday 3 June 2021 at 1.30 pm. Venue / meeting platform to be confirmed.



**HUNTERSTON SITE STAKEHOLDER GROUP
MINUTES OF FIFTY NINTH MEETING HELD ON
THURSDAY 4 MARCH 2021 AT 1.30 PM, ZOOM ONLINE PLATFORM**

Present

Magnox Ltd

Mr Alastair Walker (Acting Site Director, Hunterston A)
Mr Mark Blackley (Acting Site Director, Chapelcross)
Mrs Jill Callander (SSG Secretariat)
Mr Bill Hamilton (Magnox, Director of Communications)
Ms Mair Jones (Socio Economic Lead)
Mr Sean Marshall (Magnox Communications)
Mr Andy McDade (Trade Union Rep, Hunterston A)
Mr Reuben Phillips (Waste Manager, Hunterston A)
Mr Ian Warner (Magnox Site End State Manager)

EDF (Hunterston B)

Mr Paul Forrest (Station Director)
Ms Fiona McCall (External Comms Manager)
Mr Stuart McGhie – SSG Vice Chair

Community Council Representatives

Mrs Rita Holmes – SSG Chair (Fairlie CC)
Mr John Lamb (West Kilbride CC)
Mr Jack Murdoch (Largs CC)
Mr Graham Wallace (Cumbrae CC)

CNC

Inspector Alison Wilson

North Ayrshire Council (NAC)

Ms Jane McGeorge (Ayrshire Civil Contingencies)

ONR

Mr Stuart Fannin (Hunterston B)

NDA

Ms Lucy Kerr (Apprentice, Stakeholder Team)
Mr John McNamara (Head of Stakeholder Engagement)

Scottish Government

Mr David Gurney
Ms Diane Hamilton
Mr Pat McAuley

In Attendance

Ms Sheila Adams (Minutes)
Ms Ruth Corney (Marick Communications)
Ms Cyndy Duff (Member of Public)

Mr David Nairn (Member of Public)
Ms Helen Smith (Marick Communications)

Apologies

Cllr Robert Barr (Dalry and West Kilbride)
Cllr Todd Ferguson (Dalry and West Kilbride)
Cllr Alex Gallagher (North Coast and Cumbraes)
Cllr John Glover (Kilwinning)
Cllr Tom Marshall (North Coast and Cumbraes)

Mr Bill Kings (ONR)
Mr Keith Hammond (SEPA)
Ms Melanie Hayes (SEPA)
Mr David Stone (SEPA)

The Elected Members were unable to attend the meeting due to a North Ayrshire Council Budget meeting being called.

Ms Smith, representing Marick Communications, gave a short presentation on housekeeping rules and guidance for getting the best out of the meeting on the Zoom platform and advised that the meeting was being recorded.

1. Chairman's Opening Remarks and Declarations of Interest

Mrs Holmes, Chair, welcomed everyone to the fifty ninth meeting of the Hunterston Site Stakeholder Group online. There were no declarations of interest.

2. Chair and Vice Chair Updates and Correspondence

Mrs Holmes reported that she and Mr McGhie had received and appreciated monthly site update reports from Mr Walker and from Mr Marshall on socio economics. They also received updates on Hunterston B Station from Mr Forrest, when requested. The Chairs and Vice Chairs Forum met virtually on 26 February, primarily to discuss Terms of Reference. These were discussed but will be agreed and adopted at the next quarterly meeting as there was insufficient time due to two presentations being received. Some felt that the Stem Tokamak Fusion Reactor programme was outwith the decommissioning remit of Site Stakeholder Groups and should be for a different Forum. The vendor of the Tokamak is looking for a willing site for its prototype and Mrs Holmes would like it confirmed if it is the case that the Scottish Government has indicated that it does not object to a site being in Scotland. The Chair and Vice Chair attended the virtual Scottish Nuclear Sites meeting on 7 December 2020. Peel Ports was raised, which owns much of the land at Hunterston and is the Port Authority for the Clyde at Hunterston. Mrs Holmes believed that there should be greater awareness of Peel Ports and the potential effect on Hunterston Nuclear Facilities, particularly since the drill ships incident on 2 February 2021, when one of the ships broke free from its moorings during a storm. Disappointment was expressed at the lack of consultation with communities on the Scottish Higher Activity Waste Policy Review. The Chair and Vice Chair had made clear that Hunterston Site Stakeholder Group, local communities and North Ayrshire Council do not want Hunterston to become a regional store for central and southern Scotland's radioactive waste. Mrs Holmes hoped to receive an update at the meeting from the Scottish Government on the team members as there is some concern and anxiety over the effectiveness of the Team since the personnel has changed and particularly the lack of liaison on the content of the Scottish Higher Activity Waste Policy review.

3. Actions and Approval of Previous Minutes

Actions from the last meeting:

1. Mr Ian Warner, End State Manager for Magnox Ltd, to be requested to attend the next meeting to provide a further update – agenda item.
2. Mr Walker, Hunterston A Site Director, to give a detailed report at the March SSG meeting with regard to end-of-life waste – included in report.
3. Mr McKenzie, North Ayrshire Council, undertook to find out and pass on any other relevant information on REPPiR – Jane McGeorge will provide a verbal update.
4. Mr Forrest, Hunterston B Station Director, agreed to update members on future plans for treatment and packaging facilities in the next Site Stakeholder Group meeting report - included in report.

The Minutes of the Site Stakeholder Group meeting, held on 3 December 2020, virtually on the Zoom platform, were proposed for approval by Mr John Lamb and seconded by Mr Graham Wallace.

Mrs Holmes advised of a reordering of the Agenda, to allow Hunterston B Station to present first.

4. Hunterston B Station Reports

Hunterston B Report – Mr Paul Forrest

The EDF report issued with the meeting papers was taken as read. Mr Forrest reported on a steady period of operation with Reactor 3 synchronised to the grid and generating from 31 August and Reactor 4 from 27 September 2021, contributing 2.1 TW/hrs and 1.8 TW/hrs respectively to the Scottish electricity demand. Reactor 3 is due off plant for outage on 5 March, with Reactor 4's outage scheduled for 26 March for 40 days. Thereafter, they will return to service for a final period of generation before defueling, if the Safety Case is approved. A Safety Case has been submitted to ONR for the final period.

Results of surveys on employment and engagement is positive with engagement down slightly due to concerns about the future, which is understandable. Both surveys have resulted in simplified processes which makes work more rewarding. Aspirational conversations have been completed. There will be formal consultations with Trade Unions followed by individual consultations. Between 24-36 people are being retrained for redeployment. Two protocols are in place at other Stations – Torness and Hinkley Point C.

Submission of an application for Planning Permission for new buildings and waste stores has been postponed to allow for discussions between EDF, NDA and BEIS. Conversations are positive and ongoing and hoped to be completed by the next meeting.

ONR Report – Mr Stuart Fannin

The ONR report issued with the meeting papers was taken as read. Mr Fannin updated on developments and summarised key on-site regulatory activity. Covid is still restricting inspections on site but there is one ONR individual on site for one week in a month to maintain good visibility. There were two routine compliance inspections in the period – on LC7 Incidents on the site and a conventional Health and Safety inspection. Both were graded green, with some areas for improvement were identified. A systems-based inspection on the back end of fuel route was undertaken, looking at how the station is preparing for their next phase of operations which is defueling. The inspection included defueling operations, operation of the charge machine, the ponds, the flask bay, the flask cranes areas etc and it was found that the station has not given as much attention to the fuel route as it has to the operating reactors. Because of the findings ONR welcomed the increased focus the station is now giving the fuel route in planning for its next phase of operations. An enforcement letter was issued by ONR to ensure compliance with operating limits. This was principally around the requirement to more effectively implement the operating rules which are effectively the limits and conditions required to safely operate the fuel route plant, ponds and disposal facility. The station has responded appropriately and is putting in place robust arrangements to ensure that all the rules required for defueling will be fully implemented. There is now a fuel route excellence plan ongoing.

Reactors 3 and 4 have been operating safely and compliantly over the six month period, in some ways better than other Stations, and Mr Fannin acknowledged the support of the high performing team at Hunterston B. He confirmed that ONR is still assessing the Safety Case for the final period of operation. Depending on ONR findings on the review of the safety case and this also takes into consideration the findings of the graphite inspection outage a decision will be made on whether Reactors 3 and 4 will come back to power for a further six months of operation. There is a further regulatory permission before Reactor 4 could come back to power which would mean that there would be the need to defer the statutory outage for a further six months til January 2022. ONR do not view this as a significant barrier to this and the key is making the determination of the safety case is appropriate and the graphite inspection outages are satisfactory.

Mr Fannin confirmed that his focus is to ensure that the site is adequately prepared to enter defueling on 7 January 2022.

SEPA Report -

There was no report available from SEPA and Mr Hammond was not present at the meeting. This was due to the cyber-attack made on SEPA and further information relating to this is available from the SEPA website.

Members Question and Answer Session

Mr Lamb referred to recent local landslips and rail transport and asked Mr Forrest what contingency plans are in place in the event of not being able to transport Higher Activity Waste by rail. Mr Forrest confirmed that waste can be stored on site for a period of time. The Station ceased flask dispatches for a week to allow Network Rail to make repairs. If necessary, different dispatch routes could be looked at for any longer-term delays.

Mr Lamb noted that the new buildings had been put on hold pending Government agreement and asked if there was any reason why the plans would be amended.

Mr Forrest clarified that the planning application is on hold pending the outcome of negotiations, to allow discussions to be completed and understand responsibilities i.e. who will be responsible for defueling and decommissioning.

Mr Lamb noted that if buildings were used for handling and storage of waste, they would need to be decontaminated. Mr Forrest confirmed that the buildings would be cleanable.

Mrs Holmes asked Mr Fannin if the improvement works on the fuel route were urgent because the next stage is defueling. Mr Fannin confirmed that the fuel route is currently fit for purpose for immediate defueling, if necessary, and most of the enhancements are to improve resilience. A number of modifications for enhancement are to ensure that safety systems work reliably. The enforcement letter is rigorous and modifications are intended to enhance the site's excellent standards.

Mrs Holmes asked what the irradiated fuel facilities were. Mr Forrest advised that this was the fuel dismantling cell and a charge machine, which is required to move fuel in a pressurised container.

Public Forum

Mrs Holmes asked a question on behalf of a member of the public not present at the meeting. 'Do EDF, ONR, or any other body, have the authority to question, call into question, stop any development or practice with potential to compromise safety at a nuclear site like Hunterston? In this particular case, it was the drill ships incident on 2 February 2021 which highlighted the situation here'. Mr Fannin replied that the ONR looked at safety cases specifically relating to external hazards to the site and confirmed this does include potential for a ship affecting the station, principally the cooling water inlet. However this is considered as design basis event and there are two lines of defence should the site lose its main cooling. There is the backup water cooling system and the decay heat system. The ONR considers that if Peel Ports applied for planning permission, it would have to look at the impact of emergency offsite plan.

Mrs Holmes asked Mr Forrest if the planning application for synchronised compensator impinges on route. Mr Forrest did not believe that it will impact on operations at all. Mrs Holmes added that the route will be used a lot more during defueling.

Mrs Holmes added that she had asked the ONR about the landslip which had been answered before the meeting.

Mrs Holmes referred to the Safety Case for the Reactors, of which she expected inspection of the core to play a main part. She asked if 10% of the core is a high enough percentage to inspect. Mr Forrest responded that 10% is a high percentage and there are strict criteria on the routes forward. Inspection will also be targeted where channels may be more vulnerable.

Post Meeting Note: *Post meeting note requested to clarify that graphite inspection outage will cover 15% of the core with further channels planned if results suggest this would be beneficial.*

Mrs Holmes noted the postponement of the planning application for treatment of packaging facilities and understood the reasons for waiting to determine ownership going forward but was concerned that this stops the community being consulted on what might be applied for. She asked if there are draft applications available at this stage. Mr Forrest clarified that it is not the case that EDF did not wish to engage with the community at this stage. He reminded members of a presentation by Mr Nick Cofield two meetings ago on the Waste Processing and Intermediate Level Waste store and confirmed he was happy to bring back information to a future meeting when appropriate. Ms McCall confirmed that EDF has a commitment to consultation at the appropriate time, when negotiations are completed.

Mrs Holmes asked Mr Fannin if the fixed plant guarding is EDF plant or Contractors plant. Mr Fannin responded that it is EDF's and relates to applying modern standards of guarding. It was agreed after the conventional Health and Safety inspection that this would all be brought up to modern standards by May 2021 approximately. Mr Fannin confirmed that EDF has committed to this and it is being addressed.

Mrs Holmes, on behalf of a member of the public, pointed out that the Magnox Inquiry had been published that day. She also asked why Reactor 3 was so late in shutting down. Mr Fannin responded that Reactor 3 is limited by 16.025 tw/hrs as per the agreement and has not operated at full power because it needs to be refuelled and it has not exceeded the limit.

In response to the question in the Chair's Report earlier, Mr Gurney advised that the UKAEA STEP Reactor bidding process goes on until 31 March 2021. This is part of a green recovery programme and the Scottish Government is taking a neutral stance on this and there would be the need for a strategic environmental assessment. Further information from Scottish Government Ministers will be issued in due course, and this would be circulated to members through the Secretariat. Mrs Holmes added that the Chairs and Vice Chairs Forum had been told that 100ha of land is required and believed that Chapelcross and Dounreay had shown an interest.

5. NDA Report – Mr John McNamara

Mr McNamara presented the NDA report with slides. Of the 17k NDA employees, the number of people testing positive with Coronavirus is dropping significantly. Mr McNamara described changes in key NDA personnel and the NDA Group Leadership Team, comprising Sellafeld, Dounreay, Magnox, Nuclear Transport Solutions and a newly emerging Waste Division. This is a move towards a more combined structure, with divisions, enabling greater teamwork. More presentations on this can be arranged in due course. Radioactive Waste Management Ltd (RWM) is taking forward the process of finding a Geological Disposal Facility (GDF) and is joining with LLWR to be a single waste division by the end of 2022. Mr McNamara gave an overview of the NDA's direction of travel, including the NDA Innovation Competition and publication of the Draft Business Plan 2021-24. Two GDF Working Groups have been set up, in Copeland and Allerdale, both in West Cumbria. Several other communities have also expressed an interest, which are not in West Cumbria. Mr McNamara thanked members for input into Draft Strategy 4. There was a

robust stakeholder engagement and consultation process and the virtual forums were found to be very effective, engaging with more people, and with more consultation responses received to Draft 4 than for Strategies 1, 2 and 3.

6. **Update from Scottish Government – Mr Pat McAuley, Ms Diane Hamilton**

Mr McAuley welcomed Diane Hamilton, who replaces James Fox, and explained the members of the Radioactive Substances Team. Mr McAuley replaced Charles Stewart Roper as Team Leader but has recently been promoted and will leave the Team on 19 March. Mr Don McGillivray sits at the head of the Team and Mr Martin Macdonald is Policy Advisor. Mr Tony McFadzean is an Intern in the Team until the end of March. Mr McAuley thanked the Chair and Vice Chair for participating in the first virtual Scottish Nuclear Sites meeting on 7 December. Concerns regarding the lack of engagement on the Scottish Higher Activity Waste Policy Review were noted. Mr Macdonald has been working on a public consultation document which is still in draft as it has not yet had ministerial or senior management review. Due to a period of Purdah from 25 March until the election on 6 May 2021, it is likely to be late May / early June before there is a public consultation, by which time there will also be a new Cabinet Secretary, following the elections. Mr McAuley added that the Policy Review is high level and does not contain any site specifics. The ONR Joint Convention Report is with the UK Government Minister for approval.

Members Question and Answer Session

Mr Lamb noted that he had not yet heard from Martin Macdonald regarding his offer to be involved in the Scottish Higher Activity Waste Policy Review consultation process. Mr McAuley will ask Mr Macdonald to get in contact with Mr Lamb.

Mrs Holmes noted the GDF Working Groups in Copeland and Allerdale and referred to an underwater subsea Geological Disposal Facility, with access from the Cumbrian mainland, and asked Mr McAuley for the Scottish Government view on subsea.

Mr McAuley was unable to comment as he had not heard of subsea proposals as the Scottish Government is not involved in the discussions and just receives updates. Mr McNamara added that, similar to the STEP Fusion Reactor project, the final design for the GDF process has not been decided yet. There have been initial discussions on siting but no designs or details are yet available. Mr McNamara appreciated people's concerns but reassured members that neither project details have been finalised yet.

Mrs Callander asked Mr McAuley to provide a structure chart and team members contact details.
[Action – Mr McAuley to provide structure chart and contact details for Radioactive Substances Team to the Site Stakeholder Group Secretariat.](#)

7. **Hunterston A Site Reports**

Hunterston A Reports – Mr Alastair Walker, Mr Ian Warner

The Hunterston A Site Report distributed with the meeting papers was taken as read. Mr Walker was pleased to report only a very small number of positive Covid cases, none of which were work-related transmissions. The protocols in place are working very well and there were no positive cases or self-isolating cases on the day of the meeting. 170 people are back working on site, with a number of people still working from home. On-site testing has been rolled out with a testing facility for the purpose of identifying asymptomatic cases. The transition to a 4 day/wk, from 7.30 am – 5.15 pm, Monday – Thursday, began on 1 March 2021.

Surveillance by site cameras takes place during silent hours. NDA approval for looking at new site strategies has been granted and a site specific strategy for Hunterston A is expected by the end of



the year.

Mr Walker was very pleased to report that it was 82 months since the last Lost Time Accident with the Total Recordable Incident Rate remaining at zero. Target Zero campaigns continue with a recent focus being on Seasonal Safety. There have been no radiological or environmental issues during the period.

Solid waste retrieval has encountered difficulties with plant breakdown and outages. 75 boxes of waste have been retrieved from Bunker 1 with 967 boxes to date from five bunkers. The Solid Intermediate Level Waste Encapsulation (SILWE) plant will enter active commissioning in late 2023. Celadon will remove cradle rails from Reactor buildings in June. Under a new contract, repairs to both reactor buildings will begin in July. The lattice frame has been removed by the Ponds programme.

Under socio economics, the site is supporting local communities and has donated £25k to North Ayrshire and North Coast Food Banks. There is now a new process for applying for funds.

This was Mr Walker's last attendance at the Site Stakeholder Group as Mr Mark Blackley takes over as Site Director and he thanked the Site Stakeholder Group members for their support.

Magnox was shortlisted in the Nuclear Skills Academy Awards for its contribution to the community during Covid-19 and a video was shown of various Magnox sites' participation, including Chapelcross, Dungeness A, Hunterston A, Sizewell A, Winfrith, Wylfa, undertaking activities such as shopping, delivery of PPE and prescriptions and helping at Food Banks.

Mrs Holmes thanked both Stations for their support to local communities during this difficult time.

Mr Warner recapped on End State development work, starting at an existing baseline and looking at a number of options developed. A very successful stakeholder event was held in 2019 and since then significant technical development work has been undertaken. Magnox has presented its preferred option to the NDA, of some on-site waste remaining, and this has been accepted by the NDA as an assumption. Further work is now being done on extent, nature, timing and consequences.

Mr Warner explained that Covid-19 has had a massive impact on the work to date and the timetable for Hunterston A has slipped. He stressed that the initial assumptions does not mean that there will be on-site disposal. Permit permission for this would be required from SEPA and planning permission from the Local Authority, on which there would be extensive consultation. The permissioning phase is likely to be several years into the future. Site specific strategies are emerging and these may accelerate the taking down of some facilities.

ONR Report

Mr Kings was not present at the meeting.

SEPA Report –

There was no report available from SEPA and Mr Stone and Ms Hayes were not present at the meeting.

Members Questions and Answer Session

Mr Lamb asked Mr Walker if the recovery of debris from the wet sludge retention tanks to Solid Active Waste Bunker Retrieval (SAWBR) project will be Intermediate Level Waste or High Level

Waste. Mr Walker responded that it could be Intermediate Level Waste but no more than that. Mr Lamb asked if there was any likelihood of someone finding a fuel element and Mr Walker confirmed that this was generally nuts, bolts and arbitrary items that have not been previously seen because of the water.

Mr Lamb asked Mr Walker if there were challenges being faced in the grouting plant. Mr Walker replied that there are challenges on the Solid Intermediate Level Waste Encapsulation Plant with the external silo due to moisture getting into the feed system. A few modifications have been made to prevent this happening in the future.

Mr Lamb asked about preparations for Care and Maintenance and if the tender for waterproofing the Reactor roof had gone out to tender. Mr Walker advised that this was due to go out to tender in March. The cladding tender had been put on hold, pending options for the new site strategy.

Mr Lamb asked about the state of Compound CP7 in relation to heavy rainfall and rising sea levels. Mr Walker advised that there is pipeline running through CP7 Compound and groundwater penetrating the manholes but nothing else is impacted. There are 450 line and 375 line manholes on the line in CP7 Compound with sumps in them. Silt building up in the manholes had been identified and removed.

Mrs Holmes congratulated Mr Walker on getting the lattice framework removed. She feels as if the site is somewhat in limbo until it has the Site Specific Strategy. Mr Walker commented that the site is focussed on the next 2-3 years and is being careful with what work is being done now until there is better visibility on the new strategy. Mrs Holmes noted that Continuous Reactor Dismantling is also being considered and that the chosen option affects the workforce.

Mrs Holmes asked about ungrouted packages entering the Intermediate Level Waste store and if they would need grouted. Mr Walker confirmed that this is currently the baseline and that 1,150 packages of solid waste are in boxes in Intermediate Level Waste Store. Some work is going on to challenge this and look at other routes.

8. Any Other Business

Ms McGeorge advised that the Detailed Emergency Planning Zone (DEPZ) was agreed at a meeting of North Ayrshire Council on 16 December 2020. This has been set at 2km with the proviso that premises in the previous DEPZ, which was 2.4km, would remain in place. Letters to this effect have been written to all residents and business owners, unfortunately the wrong map was issued and apologies have been given for this.

Mr Wallace was disappointed that this was the route chosen by North Ayrshire Council, particularly in respect of the Islands. The other aspect was in general contingency planning to ensure that there was some plan for people to leave the islands should there be the need.

9. Next Meeting – Thursday 3 June 2021

The date of the next meeting was confirmed as Thursday 3 June 2021.

Mrs Holmes thanked everyone for attending the meeting and brought it to a close at 3.19 pm.