

Chapelcross Site Stakeholder Group

June 2021 by teleconference

Cyber-Attack

On 24 December 2020, SEPA was subject to a serious and complex cyber-attack which has significantly impacted our contact centre, internal systems, processes and communications. Whilst Police Scotland has indicated the likely involvement of international serious and organised crime, SEPA has been clear that it will not engage with criminals intent on disrupting public services and extorting public funds. The matter is subject to a live criminal investigation.

SEPA has been working closely with Police Scotland, the National Cyber Security Centre and specialist cyber experts to determine the nature and scope of the attack. We learned that 1.2 GB of data (information) amounting to just over 4,000 files had been stolen from us.

On 21 January 2021, SEPA learned that the information stolen from us had been published online illegally. Some of the information that's been published was already publicly available, whilst some of that information was not. We are working quickly to assess the information that was published online. Our priority is to identify the information that is personal data and/or commercially sensitive.

SEPA's approach continues to be to take the best professional advice from multi-agency partners, including Police Scotland and cyber security experts, with the multi-agency response focused on eradication, remediation and recovery. Online pollution and enquiry reporting has been restored, but staff schedules, some data products and reporting tools remain impacted and offline.

As part of a phased rollout, an increasing number of employees are now gaining access to SEPA email addresses. As email is restored, staff will have a significant volume of information and emails to manage against the backdrop of continued limitations due to the impacts of the cyber-attack and COVID-19. The restoration of SEPA emails will be phased and not all colleagues have access to our systems. We're working hard to clear our backlog of emails, but it will take us time. Please don't assume that any emails that you have sent to us since Christmas Eve (and in the period leading up to this) are currently being actioned.

Further information can be obtained from the SEPA website www.sepa.org.uk.

Environmental Authorisations (Scotland) Regulations 2018 (EASR)- radioactive substances

In addition to the cyber-attack, SEPA has also had to manage the COVID-19 pandemic and its associated restrictions. Our advice has presumed against site inspections, unless there has been a significant event involving our remit. Telephone communication with both sites has continued throughout the period, including formal

weekly call-downs. Routine teleconferences with both Magnox Ltd and EDF Nuclear Generation Ltd on strategic issues have also continued as before.

At this time physical inspection is planned for the Chapelcross site in June. Provided these inspections go ahead, more information will be provided during the meeting.

SEPA produced a temporary regulatory position statement on management of radioactive substances at nuclear sites during the pandemic and is available, along with full details of SEPA's response to the pandemic, from our website.

Events

There were no other reportable incidents, complaints or non-compliance events affecting SEPA's interests at either site known to have occurred since the last meeting of the SSG at the time of writing this report.

Radioactivity in Food & the Environment (RIFE)

SEPA works together with the Environment Agency, Natural Resources Wales, Northern Ireland Environment Agency, Food Standards Scotland and Food Standards Agency on the radiological monitoring of food and the environment, and in publishing the results. The reports aim to provide an in-depth assessment of radioactivity in food and the environment in the UK and the public's exposure to radiation. The reports focus on key information that demonstrates both that food remains safe and that the public's exposure to ionising radiation is within legal limits.

The latest edition (RIFE 25) covering 2019 has been published and electronic copies can be obtained from SEPA's website: www.sepa.org.uk under "*Environment/Radioactive Substances/Environmental monitoring and assessment/Reports*". The total dose for the critical group around Chapelcross for the year was 0.007 millisieverts, which is down from 0.019 millisieverts in 2018, and is about <1% of the annual dose limit (1 millisievert).

Scottish Pollutant Release Inventory (SPRI)

The Scottish Pollutant Release Inventory (SPRI) is a publicly accessible electronic database of releases of pollutants to all environmental media and transfers of non-radioactive waste. SEPA intends that, as far as practicable, SPRI be the principle means by which information on Scottish pollutant releases and non-radioactive waste transfers is collected and made public. Wherever possible, such information will be collected and presented by this one system. The data for 2019, including that from Chapelcross, have been published and are available on SEPA's website under "*Environment/Environmental data/SPRI*".