



Site Stakeholder Group

**DUNGENESS A SITE AND B POWER STATION
DUNGENESS SITE STAKEHOLDER GROUP MEETING
VIA ZOOM
WEDNESDAY 24 NOVEMBER 2021**

Attendance:

Mr J Benn	-	Station Director, Dungeness B
Cllr M Burgess	-	Ashford Borough Council
Cllr P Coe	-	New Romney Town Council
Mr I Cuthbert	-	Magnox Site Director, Dungeness A
Ms R De Dios Fisher	-	Magnox, Dungeness A
Mr P Fahey	-	EA Inspector, Dungeness A
Mrs T Finn	-	SSG Secretariat
Mr C Frears	-	Office for Nuclear Regulation (ONR)
Cllr D Godfrey	-	Deputy SSG Chairman
Mr J Goodsell	-	SJC Dungeness A
Cllr C Hoggart	-	Rother District Council
Cllr J Jones	-	Lydd Town Council
Mr S Kirsopp	-	ONR Inspector
Mr R Lavender	-	Kent Invicta Chamber of Commerce
Mrs E Vaughan Lewis	-	Magnox Communications
Ms K Masters	-	For DNA Site Director
Mr J McNamara	-	Nuclear Decommissioning Authority
Mr E Osondu	-	Environment Agency
Mr M Pardo	-	Communications, EDF
Mrs A Prentice	-	EDF, Dungeness B
Ms K Ramsden	-	Magnox Communications
Mr J Rogers	-	ONR Inspector, Dungeness A
Mr J Royal-Simpson	-	Affinity Water
Col G Smythe	-	Independent Chairman
Mr C Wells	-	Magnox
Mrs S Bowie-Wooler	-	Minute Taker

I INTRODUCTION

3834 Chairman opened the meeting and highlighted the recent announcements and changes that have taken place since the last meeting. Chairman has explained that a considerable amount of work has taken place to the constitution of the Dungeness SSG, and the distribution of comms and attendance at the meeting. The chairs of all SSGs are meeting on 5 December to finalise changes to the constitution across all sites.

II APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

3835 Apologies have been received from Cllr T Hill and Cllr C Goddard

III TO APPROVE THE MINUTES

3836 Minutes of meeting 29 June 2021 accepted as a true reflection
Minutes of extraordinary meeting 28 September 2021 accepted as a true reflection

IV CORRESPONDENCE

3837 There has been a large amount of correspondence produced since the last meeting. Col. Smythe explained that all the correspondence had been sent to members via email. Col Smythe has asked if they needed to be resent, requests to be made to Tracey Finn.

29 July, a brief was sent by the Environmental Agency asking for views on Fusion. Chairman spoke to the coordinator at Folkestone and Hythe Council and the views were as a Fusion Plant cannot be placed at Dungeness, the council did not feel as if they are in the position to comment on this. . The brief on fusion in June 2021 was given by UKAEA the UK atomic energy authority not the EA – (Environment Agency) so they couldn't give feedback.

V MATTERS ARISING – GEORGE SMYTHE

3838 None

VI COMMENTS OR QUESTIONS REGARDING DUNGENESS A'S CLOSURE DIRECTOR'S REPORT – KELLY MASTERS, ENVIRONMENT, HEALTH & SAFETY, SECURITY AND QUALITY MANAGER, DUNGENESS A

3839 Kelly Masters attended in place of Ian Cuthbert (Dungeness A, Site Director), delivered the presentation, and highlighted the following points.

Safety and Compliance

- Site now has exceeded 2,016 days since a last time accident occurred (as of 17/11/2021)
- There has been raised site awareness of the new approach road speed camera installed.
- Covid Guidance has been reiterated to all teams, and the expectation that all on-site staff are to test at least once a week.
- Recent site-safety/well-being campaigns have focused on transport, winter safety and mental health.

Future Focus

- A and B sites are co-operating following the government's announcement on arrangements for decommissioning EDF Energy's Advanced Gas-cooled Reactors

fleet. Site Directors have already begun initial meetings regarding collaborative working.

- Dungeness A is in discussion with Environment Agency about reducing the site environmental programme – this is to rationalise the number and location of samples, taking into account the current discharges from the site. Continued monitoring of discharges will continue to assess environmental impact and to look for trends.

Dungeness Sustainability Group

- Established to support Magnox sustainability strategy, the group are currently in their engage and prepare phase.
- The Group is looking to engage the local community and develop local suppliers and locally sourced workforce. Developing a sustainable approach for the long-term work programme.
- Achievements include:
 - Waste projects included sustainability requirements in contract specifications for waste facilities.
 - Incorporating sustainability requirements into boilers and ancillary plant removal project
 - Campaign to minimise printing at site and using digital documents where possible.
 - Lower power usage lights have been installed in Channel View.

Plant & Structures / Asset care update

- Asset care projects have allocated funding to progress 23 planned projects.
- Five more projects (including upgrades to site buildings and car parks) have been identified.
- Initial 23 have been highest priority works to maintain condition of the site. This includes upgrading site assets, provision of additional welfare facilities/improvements to existing facilities.
- Completed work to electrical system – enabling boilers removal project
- Installation of temporary roofs in boiler annexes. This will prevent further degradation to the annexes and prevent ingress of rainwater to site.
- Town's water main upgrades – around 3,000 dead ends and legs have been disconnected.
- The Channel View building has been refurbished and now in use, showcasing a smarter working approach.

Ponds programme update:

- Significant milestones for the ponds programme have been reached:
 - Remaining sludge in reactor one ponds have been transferred
 - Clean down of reactor one flasks loading bay has progressed, removal and cutting up of equipment used for sludge/water transfers has been completed.
- The programme is now moving into phase 2, which will include deplant, size reduction and waste processing of internal pipework and pumps etc.

Magnox Socio-economics – Update

- Romney Marsh Business Hub development official opening will be 7 December 2021
- The Good Neighbourhood fund 2021/2022
 - One good cause already supported
 - Two more applications are in process

The good neighbourhood fund will fund up to £1,000, and funding is available for larger scale projects. Further information can be found via

3840 Kelly invited questions from the SSG:

Chairman confirmed boiler removal will be covered in the presentation later on in the meeting.

Chairman asked if the meeting between the Site Directors was around the technical aspects of decommissioning, or the longer-term plan?

John Benn answered: John confirmed that this is due to Magnox being the preferred supplier for decommissioning and they are looking at the ways they can work together. Meeting to take place in Quarter 1 of next year. This is a positive step forward, and the SSG will be informed when the plan has been decided.

Phil Fahey: We would like to see the sites begin to work together at an early stage, Dungeness B can learn from Dungeness A and we welcome the involvement of all stakeholders. The Environment Agency would agree any changes in the programme as appropriate.

VII COMMENTS OR QUESTIONS REGARDING DUNGENESS B STATION DIRECTOR'S REPORTS – JOHN BENN, STATION DIRECTOR

3841 John Benn thanked the SSG for facilitating the move of the meeting. John Benn delivered his report verbally and highlighted the following points:

- No significant radiological or industrial safety events, only event this year was the slip reported in Feb 2021. This is a testament to the safety performance of the site, and Dungeness are leading in the fleet for safety on a number of metrics.
- Issues controlling the boiler feedwater, through further analysis of the results from tests carried in May 2021. The boiler water purity is extremely important, we fell short at the standards. EDF are working with the regulator to rectify this, there was no risk to the public. Robust action plan has been agreed and will be submitted to ONR and remedial works will be made.
- Good progress is being made towards defueling the site, good progress has been made with the safety case and commitment has been made to government that the site will be defueled by June 2023.
- A number of high-level visits have been made to the site, these have included NLF trustees, Exec and the BBC. It has been a great opportunity to showcase the work that has taken place since June 2021.
- There will be a large, planned outage at Dungeness, there is a circa of £35m of funding, this will lead the site into defueling. All new fuel has been packaged and sent off to the designated sites.
- EDF are looking at their asset management, and a new office has been opened at Eureka Park as it was deemed more cost effect to lease the site for 7 years.
- A new season of beach feeding will commence for 19 weeks, EDF are in contact with local stakeholders to ensure that we are maintaining our sea defences.

John showed slides showing updates of the works that have been discussed in previous meetings include safe transit ways across the sites, upgrading of the Additional Feed Systems and Boiler Lifetime works (new building and controls).

Staff consultation is taking place around the Dungeness B Visitor Centre, this may not reopen, and all options are being considered.

3842 John invited questions from the SSG

No questions raised.

VII COMMENTS OR QUESTIONS ON ONR REPORT FOR DUNGENESS A – JOHN ROGERS, ONR INSPECTOR

3843 John Rogers delivered his presentation verbally and highlighted the following points:

Two inspections have been carried out, one on licence condition 7 (investigation and reporting of incidents on site). Dungeness A has always had a good history of reporting and investigating industries. The recent investigation was given an amber rating and formal improvements have been requested, the site was aware, and Kelly had put together an OUF improvement plan. LC 19 to 22, inspection to look at modifications including the boiler removal project and no issues were found and a green rating was issued.

- Pond skips, a number of sites including Dungeness A were to transport their skips to Hinkley for long term storage. This has not happened, and the planning permission for storage was refused. Magnox have been looking for a way forward, and sampling needs to take place to gain a better understanding of the radiological characterisation. There was a request for a large number of samples, Magnox raised the concern around the high-level risk associated with this. The ONR are working with Magnox to ensure that sampling takes place and there is an internal investigation taking place on how this situation has come about. There is a large amount of high dose waste at Dungeness and the ONR will keep the SSG up to date on the progress on this project.
- General tidiness of site, there has been a dramatic improvement of general tidiness of site. Improvement works are being made to the welfare facilities such as office, and the work Ian and his team have put in is beginning to bear fruit.

3844 John invited questions from the SSG
No questions raised

IX COMMENTS OR QUESTIONS ON ONR REPORT FOR DUNGENESS B – STEPHEN KIRSOPP, ONR INSPECTOR

3845 Stephen delivered his report verbally and highlighted the following:

- Apologised to the SSG for reports not been received, and these will be forwarded onto the SSG Secretariat.
- Q2 Highlights:
 - Compliance inspections took place – LC11, LC9 and LC10 during this period, the Deputy Chief Inspector attended. The inspections were all rated green, and this evidenced a positive demonstration of the site's responsiveness against these licence conditions.
- Q3 Highlights:
 - LC 6 and LC 23 – archiving and documentation, rated green
 - Health and Safety inspection, carried out by a specialist inspector. Looked at Working at Height and Control of Substances Hazardous to Health (COSHH) – rated green
 - As John mentioned earlier in the meeting, the loss of water chemistry controls was formally reported to the ONR. As a consequence, we undertook preliminary enquiries to gain a better understanding of what occurred and we became aware that there was a significant shortfall in licence conditions LC17, LC 23, LC24 and LC28. The ONR management model was implemented, a direction was issued to the station under LC15 which required the station to review the management of this and the report is due on 1st December. The station has responded well and have been proactive in accepting the ONR findings.

3846 Stephen invited questions from the SSG

X COMMENTS OR QUESTIONS ON ENVIRONMENTAL UPDATES – PHIL FAHEY, EA INSPECTOR, DUNGENESS A AND EDDIE OSONDU EA INSPECTOR, DUNGENESS B

3847 Phil Fahey delivered a presentation and highlighted the following points:

- There have been a number of interactions between the EA and Dungeness A in recent months, including various aspects of aqueous waste, gaseous waste plant and the ILW skips in conjunction with the ONR. The EA are looking at how the site is making environmental improvements as well as compliance with the permits. The EA are happy with the implementation of the Sustainability in projects at site. We are awaiting for reports from the Operator as outlined in our report. Various Inspections have taken place over the last few months, also outlined in the report. The Operator is due to complete their waste management plan and site wide environmental safety case in line with the GRR (Management of radioactive waste from decommissioning of nuclear sites: Guidance on Requirements for Release from Radioactive Substances Regulation) by end of 2023.

3848 Phil invited questions from the SSG

- Chairman asked, confusion around the skips and we were under the impression these would go to Hinkley. Will these be stored on site and will this affect Dungeness B. Phil: The skips stored on site need to have further work on their characterisation as outlined in our report. The skips will be stored appropriately until this characterisation is complete. Kelly Masters: We will pick the optimum disposal route following the characterisation.

3849 Eddie Osondu delivered his presentation for Dungeness B

Eddie delivered his presentation verbally and highlighted the following points:

- During the period under review, we conducted 2 inspections and attended the Annual Review of Safety (ARoS). In July 2021 we inspected the Environmental Monitoring Programme (EMP). Dungeness B undertakes the monitoring, sampling and some analyses for both sites. Objectives were to investigate factors behind Dungeness B not reporting Q1 2021 herbage sample results from the Dengemarsh sampling location, discuss potential changes to the EMP following the 2019 Habits Survey and to review the station's monitoring/sampling/analyses approach. We did not identify any permit non-compliances during the inspection.
- We recommended that Environmental Safety Group update the station's EMP taking into consideration changes identified in the latest Habits Survey Report. This will be submitted to the EA for review by 31 March 2022.
- In October 2021, we conducted an Asset Management inspection focusing on the Active Effluent Water Treatment Plant (AEWTP), Gaseous Sampling Cubicles and the Heating & Ventilation (H&V) Plant.. Aim of this inspection was to check that adequate arrangements are in place to maintain the above plants in good repair before, during and after the defueling period. We did not identify any permit breaches. We found that significant ongoing investment was being made to ensure plant and equipment remain in good repair.
- In the latest RIFE (Radioactivity in Food and the Environment) Report for 2020 the total radiation dose to the public within the vicinity of Dungeness A and B as a result of discharges and radiation shine was very low at 0.012 mSv. This is approximately 1% Government dose limit of 1mSv per year. Further information can be found in the EA report and in the RIFE report (link below)

3850 Eddie invited questions from the SSG
No questions asked

XI NDA UPDATE – JOHN MCNAMARA, NDA

John delivered his presentation and highlighted the following points:

3851 Covid-19 Update

- NDA staff are still working at home, there is a progressive managed return to the office taking place. The NDA will continue to adopt a hybrid mix of home and office working. The stakeholder groups are still being consulted on how we continue to respond to the Covid-19 situation and how we engage with external stakeholders.

NDA Sustainability report

- The first NDA Sustainability report was published on 8th March 2020 and was aimed at:
 - Investing in people, communities & protecting the environment for the longer term.
 - Identifying key opportunities and projects to improve sustainability across the NDA group.
 - NDA Group supported participation at the recent COP26 meetings (<https://ukcop26.org/>) and are working to achieve the net zero target.
- <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/nda-sustainability-report-financial-year-april-2020-to-march-2021>

Mission Progress Report

- Published on 4 November
https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/814660/Mission_Progress_Report_July_2019.pdf
- The report demonstrates how much progress has been made in our mission since 2005, and how much further is left to go over the next 120+ years.
- Progress and goals have been aligned with those in strategy 4, published in March 2021. <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/nuclear-decommissioning-authority-strategy-effective-from-march-2021>

Nuclear Waste Services

- NDA's waste division on target to launch 31st January 2022, bringing together LLWR and RWM under a common executive team. It will be known as the Nuclear Waste Services (logo and identity still in development)
- Day-to-day work for majority of employees will remain unchanged and the departments and functions will be integrated following the launch. The new executive team do not take up positions until 31st January 2022.

NDA to decommission Advanced Gas Reactors

- The NDA have been directed by government to take on future ownership of seven EDF AGR sites for decommissioning.
- Magnox Ltd will be responsible for decommissioning the seven sites following the defueling of the seven sites including Dungeness B.
- This is a testament to the skills, knowledge and experience in the NDA group – and government confidence in NDA's capability to deliver the expectations set by government.

Theddlethorpe Working Group / Mid Copeland Community Partnership

- RWM welcomes the formation of the Theddlethorpe Working Group, providing the platform for starting local discussions on the possible siting of a geological disposal facility (GDF)
- Marks the starting point in an exploratory, fact-finding and discussion process.
- The Mid-Copeland Community partnership has been formed and brings in the opportunity for further discussions within the local community.

Personnel changes

- Jamie Reed joined the NDA this week to become director for Social Impact
- Dr Sam Harris has joined the NDA as Head of Government Affairs
- Jonathan Jenkins will join BEIS, Simon Napper from RWM will be his replacement moving forward.
- Gillian Elliot joins the Stakeholder team from her current role at Cumbria County Council.

NDA Supply Chain Event

- New date 3 February at The International Centre, Telford. This was originally planned for June 2020 and was postponed due to the Covid-19 Pandemic. This will be the largest supply chain event in Europe with 1,700 visitors and over 300 suppliers.

NDA – “Keeping the conversation going”

- NDA Stakeholder event took place on 26 November, this was an invite only event and all SSG members were welcome. Virtual conference where stakeholders can ask live questions and hear panels on a live streaming platform.

3852 John invited questions from the SSG

David Godfrey asked if the Mid-Copeland Community Partnership are accessing the funds that are available now that they are in the next stage of the process?

John McNamara: They are, now that they have moved into the Community Partnership stage the local authority is now involved. The Community Partnership will now work with the RWM to identify suitability. There should be a second set up before Christmas and a third set up after. Further updates will be provided, the RWM are receiving further interest from other areas.

XII TURBINE HALL INFILL PROJECT UPDATE – ROSANNA DE DIOS FISHER, SAFETY AND ENVIRONMENT ENGINEER

3853 Rosanna delivered her presentation and highlighted the following points:

- Project goals are:
 - To meet an environmentally suitable end state which is in compliance with the site’s environmental statement.
 - To provide a stable and level lay down area for future decommissioning works.
- Recap of Project
 - The site is partially infilled with demolition material in 2015
 - Magnox carried out a number of assessments to identify the best solution and to demonstrate the suitability of leaving the demolition material in situ. Magnox presented this proposal at the SSG in February 2021.
- Project Progress
 - A groundwater monitoring regime has been agreed with the EA and is under development.
 - Potential sources of infill material have been identified and Environmental Impact Assessment is ongoing. Magnox have engaged with the Local Authority in preparation for beginning a planning application.
- Project Review – Importing material by sea
 - A decision was made not to import material by sea due to:
 - Disruption of the SSSI
 - Disruption of public access to Dungeness beach and right of way

- High potential for increase dust levels
 - Water management issues
 - High cost of infrastructure for a relatively small project
 - Difficult to check material meets acceptance criteria
 - Significant and not straightforward permissioning.
- Next Steps
 - Submit preliminary planning enquiry and EIA Screening to Folkestone and Hythe District Council
 - Engage contractor for design and fill phases
 - Implement groundwater monitoring regime and groundwater contingency arrangements
 - Aiming to begin on site preparation works in August 2022 and importing materials by September 2022. Project completion planned for February 2022.

3854 Rosanna asked for questions from the SSG

The chairman asked if there was a possibility for this to be brought in by rail to prevent further traffic in the surrounding community.

Rosanna: We did investigate this, as Dungeness B would also be using this rail line. We are continuing to consider further options on this, as it may limit where we can get the materials from.

3855 John Benn: I would consider the infrastructure required to modify the rail head, would be too great to be effective to move. It would need a fairly significant investment and could affect the Dungeness B defueling programme.

3856 Phil Fahey: I wanted to provide a background, and this matter is detailed in my report. As Rosanna has described the Operator will leave this in situ and further materials put on top to support the crane. Magnox has proven to the EA's satisfaction that this is the best option moving forward. The EA will formulate a regulatory position statement. Although we are not 100% happy we feel that this is the best option moving forward. We are considering consulting with Natural England to produce the position statement. Since the meeting we contacted NE for their view.

5857 Chris Frears: Is the Environmental Impact assessment a statutory requirement?

Rosanna De Dios Fisher: We have not completed the screening, so we are not able to answer that question now. We are using the EIA, regardless of the screening for our assurance. The first step on our route to planning is to submit a pre planning letter to F&HDC. We are carrying out a number of works to ensure this is assessed to ensure this is mitigated correctly.

Rosanna will return to a future meeting to answer any concerns and queries that may not be answered following on from her presentation in today's meeting.

XIII SMALL MODULAR REACTORS – CLLR DAVID GODFREY

3858 The Chairman gave background to the need for this report, due to recent information provided to by the Folkestone and Hythe MP Damian Collins. The Chairman asked David to prepare an update on how the Small Modular Reactors could benefit Dungeness.

David delivered his report verbally and highlighted the following points:

- Damian and Vice Chair met with Rolls Royce a number of years ago, net zero has put SMRs firmly in agenda for moving forward. The government has commissioned Rolls Royce to investigate potential sites.
- It is very early days, and F&HDC support Damian's wish to have these and Vice Chair will bring further information when this is available.

- 3859 John McNamara offered his comments. BEIS would instruct the NDA to sell land to private developers if this in line with the government's plans. The NDA would work with local communities to identify the suitability of the land and will be guided by BEIS.
- 3860 Richard Lavender offered his comments. This subject has been raised by the business community as part of the Kent Invicta Chamber of Commerce. Recently provided a briefing to the CEO on what SMRs are and how these could be beneficial for the area. Majority of MPs are in support of this project and so are local businesses.
- 3861 John Benn informed the SSG that there a number of interviews online which detail further information on site selection and where SMRs could be deployed. There is no mention of specific sites and Dungeness has not been selected as of this moment.

XIV SOCIO-ECONOMIC UPDATE – GEORGE SMYTHE, SSG CHAIRMAN

- 3862 This was covered in the Dungeness A report. A sub-group committee meeting took place in the middle of the week to progress projects.

The good neighbourhood fund will fund up to £1,000, and funding is available for larger scale projects. Further information can be found via

<https://www.gov.uk/government/collections/magnox-working-with-our-communities>

XV CHAIRS UPDATE – GEORGE SMYTHE, SSG CHAIRMAN

- 3863** The Chairman has announced his intention to stand down as of the next AGM meeting. The Chairman has asked for SSG members to inform him if they would like to nominate themselves for the position.

The SSG thanked the Chairman for his service over the years.

Chairman thanked the SSG for their attendance.

XVI ANY OTHER BUSINESS

- 3864 None raised

XVII DATE AND TIME OF NEXT MEETING – Tuesday 29 March – Special SSG meeting and Wednesday 18 May Annual General Meeting of the Dungeness SSG