

**DUNGENESS A SITE AND B POWER STATION**  
**DUNGENESS SITE STAKEHOLDER GROUP MEETING**  
**VENUE: LYDD GOLF COURSE, ROMNEY ROAD, ROMNEY MARSH TN29 9LS**  
**WEDNESDAY 18<sup>TH</sup> MAY 2022**

Attendance:

Mrs L Barton	-	Lydd Town Council
Mr J Benn	-	Station Director, Dungeness B
Ms C Bruce	-	Dungeness Resident
Cllr M Burgess	-	Ashford Borough Council
Cllr P Coe	-	New Romney Town Council
Mr J Crook	-	ONR Inspector, Dungeness B
Mr I Cuthbert	-	Site Director, Dungeness A
Mr J Dennis	-	Staff Rep, Dungeness B
Mr P Fahey	-	EA Inspector, Dungeness A
Mrs T Finn	-	SSG Secretariat
Cllr D Godfrey	-	Deputy Chairman
Mr J Goodsell	-	Staff Rep, Dungeness A
Mr B Hamilton	-	Magnox
Ms E Harrison	-	Kent County Council
Mr J Heavingham	-	Environment Agency
Cllr T Hills	-	Kent County Council
Cllr R Jones	-	Lydd Town Council
Mrs H Morris	-	Magnox
Ms K Ramsden	-	Magnox Communications
Mr J Rogers	-	ONR Inspector, Dungeness A
Cllr K Rye	-	Lydd Town Council
Col G Smythe	-	Independent Chairman
Mrs S Bowie-Wooler	-	Minute Taker

**Apologies**

Mr S Bashford	-	Staff Rep, Dungeness B
Mr B Botley	-	Kent Against a Radioactive Environment
Cllr C Goddard	-	Lydd Town Council
Mr R Lavender	-	Kent Invicta Chamber of Commerce
Mr S Napper	-	NDA
Mr E Osondu	-	EA Inspector, Dungeness B
Mr M Pardo	-	Communications, EDF
Ms M Stuart	-	Kent Against a Radioactive Environment

## **I INTRODUCTION**

3865 Chairman opened the meeting and welcomed the SSG members to today's meeting. Welcomed Jason Crook to the SSG.

## **II APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

3866 Apologies will be sent with the approved minutes.

## **III TO APPROVE THE MINUTES**

3867 Minutes of meeting November 2021 accepted as a true reflection.  
Minutes of extraordinary meeting March 2022 accepted as a true reflection with the following note added.

3868 The Chairman asked Ian Cuthbert, following on from the extraordinary SSG meeting for further details around the transport of building materials for the infill of the Turbine Hall area.

Ian confirmed that the current thinking is, three lorries per hour for eight hours, three days per week for 32 weeks. Additionally, due to the infrastructure requirements new buildings will need to be erected. The traffic management plan is being looked at, infill from Medway and transported to site or transport from Rye, further discussions taking place. Traffic Management plan will be submitted to KCC. Tony Hills has suggested that the material comes in from sea and Ian Cuthbert has confirmed that it was not suitable to be brought in by sea and will follow up on the reasoning for this.

## **IV CORRESPONDENCE**

3869 List of correspondence included in meeting packs; this can be made available by emailing the SSG Secretariat.

## **V MATTERS ARISING – GEORGE SMYTHE**

3870 The Chairman asked John Benn for an update on the Dungeness Site B Visitors Centre, John Benn has confirmed that the decision has been made for the visitors' centre to close. Alison and her team will move to the communications team, and the Visitors centre will now be used as a medical facility and a location for community groups and the SSG will have use of the amphitheatre.

## **VI COMMENTS OR QUESTIONS REGARDING DUNGENESS A'S SITE DIRECTOR'S REPORT – IAN CUTHBERT, SITE DIRECTOR DUNGENESS A**

3871 Ian delivered his report verbally and highlighted the following:

### **Safety and Compliance**

- Site now has 2,120 days of decommissioning work delivered without a Lost Time Accident
  - There were four accidents requiring First Aid in 2021/2022 including:
    - 3 hand injuries
    - 1 leg injury
- 658 opportunities to learn (LCFs) raised and 18 learning / innovation briefs were issued in the last year.
- Covid-19 controls remain in place, and are successful.

- 1,069 days since the last environmental non-compliance issued

#### **Storm Damage update**

- Building has now been stabilised, full height scaffolding is due to be erected and further remedial works to take place.

#### **NDA group employee awards**

- Kelly Masters EHSS&Q Manager has won the best safety and security role model award.
- Dungeness storms recovery team won the outstanding team award for its storm recovery work.

#### **Dungeness Sustainability Group**

- The site is supporting the No Mow May challenge, unless required for security or safety reasons no cutting / works are to take place on the shrubbery etc of the Magnox estate.
- Staff on site have shared ideas on how to explore cheaper and more sustainable options for heating and powering our homes.
- Site is currently working on generators, and this has caused additional noise in the area. Ian has advised his staff that they need to be back on the national grid before the bank holiday weekend and has apologised to the stakeholders and local community.

#### **Socio-economic**

Funding is still available through the various socio-economic schemes e.g. The good neighbourhood fund will fund up to £2,000, 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>

3872 Ian invited questions from the SSG

Tony Hills: Will there be an increase in staff numbers on the site?

Ian Cuthbert: we have an average of 300 on site, and up to 500 for specific projects.

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

3873 John Benn delivered his update verbally and highlighted the following points.

- It has been a year since the decision to defuel Dungeness Site B was made, and progress towards defueling is currently around 6 months ahead of the plan and safety case, and this is on track to start defueling in June 2023.
- Pre-defueling outage is currently taking place for reactor 22 and the fuel route, circa £4m and a statutory outage on reactor 21. Positive safety record, with several safety campaigns for all staff and contractors on site in place.
- Safety case, which is a heavy programme, and the initial defueling will be water pressurised, a different programme of works from other AGRs. The time to defuel Dungeness B should take around 7 – 10 years before fuel free status is declared. Safety Case will be submitted to the ONR by the end of the year, further outages will need to take place every 3 years for inspections due to the style of defueling to take place. Other options are being considered, to ensure that EDF is taking the safest and cost-efficient route possible.

- John Benn has confirmed that he has resigned from EDF, and this will be his last SSG meeting, and will be leaving on 1 October 2022. Recruitment is ongoing to replace John, and he thanked the SSG for their time and support.

3874 John invited questions from the SSG

Tony Hills: Will there be any changes to the security levels at the site? As there is a concern that this will be relaxed.

John Benn: The same level of security will be in place, and this will be maintained during the defueling process. The full CNC are in place, and this has been increased with the increased number of migrants that have been landing on the beach.

Phil Fahey, in Eddie Osondu's absence confirmed that there were 3 minor breaches of the Dungeness B environmental permit following a review of the 2021 quarter 2 Environmental Monitoring Programme (EMP) Returns. The Environment Agency enforcement response to these breaches was to offer advice and guidance on this occasion (the lowest of our enforcement responses, as there had been no environmental impact).

The Chairman thanked John for his time, and his support over the years.

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

3875 John Rogers delivered his presentation verbally and highlighted the following points:

- There is a significant programme of works over the next two to three years including the skyline changes discussed in the extra ordinary meeting in March.
- John highlighted the first-rate response to the damaged cladding followed the storm, and how well the site responded. Long-term strategies for asset maintenance are in ongoing discussions.
- ONR Colleagues are due to meet with the NDA on Friday, 20 May, and John will update at the next meeting
- ILW and certain waste types such as resin has been transported to Bradwell, this was a successful programme of works and the Ponds project is very close to completion, and Magnox will be approaching the ONR for confirmation of a LC35 Milestone.
- Traffic Management onsite, further improvements are to be made and discussions due to take place with site director.
- There has been a deterioration of Safety Culture on site, and John was pleased to say that Ian was ahead of this, and education programmes are being planned and implemented. This will be alongside specialist support on-site with Magnox.
- Boiler Annex demolition, the ONR will be working closely with Magnox to deliver this programme to ensure that the work is carried out safely.

3876 John invited questions from the SSG  
No questions raised

## **IX COMMENTS OR QUESTIONS ON ONR REPORT FOR DUNGENESS B – JASON CROOK ONR INSPECTOR**

3877 Jason introduced himself as the new ONR Inspector for Dungeness B, he joined the site in April following his work at Hinkley C.

Dungeness B has exited enhanced regulation, this has been a significant improvement through leadership and asset management. This is a sustained improvement across the site and should be seen as a positive step, this moves the site back into the normal regulation processes.

3878 Jason invited questions from the SSG, and the opportunity to meet to discuss the ONR Processes and planned inspections.

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

3879 Apologies sent from Eddie Osondu

3880 Phil delivered his report verbally and highlighted the following points:

- Over the last 12 months, there has been a focus on environmental awareness on site and a push on how the site can improve its environmental safety culture, Dungeness has been leading on this for Magnox. A demonstration was given to us on how Dungeness A will implement the sustainability strategy in the upcoming boilers project. We felt that this was an example of good practice.
- Turbine Hall Void, working with the team for over 12 months on how to infill the void in an environmentally conscious way, working to protect the environment and what impact decisions will have on these programmes.
- There are some issues with asset management, and improvements are underway which is encouraging to see how Magnox and the site are implementing their own improvement plans.
- The Environment Agency are keen for Dungeness B to work with Dungeness A for shared learning and best practice on the future of decommissioning and the challenges faced by Dungeness in the past are not repeated. Discussions are taking place at a higher level and moving towards the decommissioning mindset.

3881 Phil invited questions from the SSG

Phil Fahey: Tony Hills: Are discharges into the sea checked?  
Environment Agency teams come to Dungeness to check that sewerage discharges meet the required criteria. The Operator checks the sewage before any sewage discharge. If the planned discharge does not meet the standards, the Operator arranges for the sewage to be tankered away for disposal off site. A discharge to sea of sewage that did not meet the standards required would be a breach of the Dungeness A the water discharge permit.

**XI NDA UPDATE – JOHN MCNAMARA, NDA**

3882 John has sent his apologies, update presentation available.

**XII NULEAF AND SMALL MODULAR REACTORS UPDATE – CLLR DAVID GODFREY**

3883 Nuleaf handout available as part of the meeting pack

David delivered his presentation verbally and highlighted the following points:

- Nuleaf is the Nuclear Legacy Advisory Forum, and work as a specialist interest group, working with local authorities, to promote the best economic and environmental outcomes for local communities. They are nuclear neutral and get involved in sharing best practice for international strategies across the nuclear field.
- Further information can be found via [Home - Nuleaf](#)

3884 SMRs

- In a previous SSG around 4 years ago, discussions took place around the early stages of Small Modular Reactors and how Rolls Royce were looking to develop this area. The government has recently declared that nuclear is part of the future for renewable energy. They will not be ready for around 8-10 years, and further discussion needs to take place if there is an appetite for this at the Dungeness Site following the decommissioning of Dungeness Site A & B. \*audible agreement heard from the SSG\*
- Kwasi Kwarteng has asked David to write to him expressing the SSG interest in SMRs, David has agreed to do this.

The Chairman stated that the NDA is not a driving factor, Rolls Royce will need to sign up for this and continued discussions with local MPs. Local authorities should continue to ensure that Dungeness remain a key player in any discussions around SMRs.

Further information can be found via [Small Modular Reactors | Rolls-Royce](#)

## **XII SOCIO-ECONOMIC UPDATE – GEORGE SMYTHE, SSG CHAIRMAN**

3885 This was covered in the Dungeness A report. Several the grants are still going to projects in New Romney and the Chairman has encouraged organisations from Lydd and the surrounding villages to apply.

The good neighbourhood fund will fund up to £2,000, (increased from £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>

## **XIV CHAIR'S UPDATE–GEORGE SMYTHE, SSG CHAIRMAN**

3886 SSG Chairs meeting to take place in Manchester on 4 July 2022

Continued attendance at the Romney Marsh Partnership

## **XV ELECTION OF CHAIR AND DEPUTY CHAIR**

3887 The Chairman has confirmed that he will be stepping down from his post as the Chairman of the SSG.

3888 David has been confirmed for another term as Deputy Chairman of the Dungeness SSG

3889 Graham Finn has been proposed as Chairman, Tony Hills proposed and agreed as a majority by the SSG.

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

Chairman thanked the SSG for their attendance.

**XVI ANY OTHER BUSINESS**

- 3890 Bill Hamilton delivered an update on behalf of Magnox, there is several changes taking place at Magnox and has offered to deliver a corporate update on Magnox at every SSGs to complement the report delivered by the NDA. This will be agreed at the Chairs meeting this coming Friday.
- BEIS has agreed that the AGR Reactors will come to Magnox for decommissioning.
  - The presentations will share details plus how this will affect the SSGs and how the new Magnox will impact the wider community.

**XVII DATE AND TIME OF NEXT MEETING–Thursday, 17 November, venue to be confirmed.**