

# UPDATE FOR LGA ENVIRONMENT BOARD

2 January 2008



## Introduction and Recommendations

NuLeAF was established as a Special Interest Group in November 2003. It reports annually to the Environment Board and publishes details of its activities at [www.nuleaf.org.uk](http://www.nuleaf.org.uk).

In the light of current developments in nuclear legacy management (see below), it is recommended that NuLeAF provides:

- more regular written updates for the Environment Board
- opportunity for occasional meetings between Environment Board portfolio holders and the NuLeAF Chair and Deputy, and Executive Director, as appropriate.

The Board is asked to endorse these recommendations.

## Remit and Objectives

NuLeAF's remit encompasses all aspects of the management of the UK's nuclear legacy. This includes the implications for legacy management of any developments that are likely to impact on that management.

NuLeAF's primary objectives are:

- to provide a mechanism to identify, where possible, a common, local government viewpoint on nuclear legacy management issues;
- to represent that viewpoint, or the range of views of its member authorities, in discussion with national bodies, including Government, the NDA and the regulators;
- to seek to influence policy and strategy for nuclear legacy management in the interests of affected communities; and
- to develop the capacity of its member authorities to engage with nuclear legacy management at a local level.

## Steering Group

NuLeAF's work is overseen by a Steering Group (SG) of elected members from member authorities. The Chair is Councillor Allan Holliday from Copeland Borough Council and the Vice Chair is Councillor Julian Swainson from Suffolk County Council.

The SG meets on average four times a year. The reports and minutes of the SG are published on the NuLeAF website.

## **Member Authorities**

NuLeAF has 96 member authorities, made up of 19 contributing members, 72 corresponding members and 5 NFLA co-optees. There has been a significant increase in the number of contributing members (from 9 in FY 06-07). The list of member authorities is published on the NuLeAF website.

All member authorities are invited to attend the SG and are kept informed about NuLeAF activities through a regular e-bulletin and Briefing Papers.

## **Key Activities**

NuLeAF is closely involved with policy and strategy development on nuclear legacy management. This involvement includes:

- *Development of an implementation framework for siting a geological repository for higher activity radioactive wastes.* To this end, NuLeAF is involved in three sets of meetings: liaison meetings with Government and the Nuclear Decommissioning Authority (NDA); a Government Communications Steering Group and Regulatory Interface Management Meetings. A White Paper on the implementation framework is expected in the first half of the year, accompanied by invitations to local communities to enter into exploratory discussions about potential participation in the siting process.
- *Development of NDA strategy for managing Low Level Wastes (LLW).* NuLeAF has been invited to participate in the NDA's new Strategy Group, which will oversee strategy development. NDA strategy will seek to implement the waste hierarchy and provide a framework for developing new facilities for managing LLW.

During 2008, NuLeAF will also respond to consultation on the NDA's draft three year business plan (by 31 January) and participate in discussions about plans for the review of the NDA's over-arching Strategy. These developments raise important issues about priorities for decommissioning and clean-up work at nuclear legacy sites.

## **Working Groups**

In order to provide detailed input from member authorities, NuLeAF convenes Officer Working Groups on (a) the siting process for a geological repository and (b) LLW management. The work of these two groups informs decision-making at the NuLeAF Steering Group and inputs to meetings with other national bodies.

NuLeAF seeks to ensure that those authorities most affected by developments are involved in the Officer Working Groups. Membership of the groups is also open to any NuLeAF member authority.

## **Contacting NuLeAF**

NuLeAF's Executive Director is Fred Barker, who can be contacted on 01422 847 189 or by e-mail at: [fred.barker@nuleaf.org.uk](mailto:fred.barker@nuleaf.org.uk). NuLeAF can also be contacted via the Secretariat c/o Suffolk County Council, Endeavour House, Russell Road, Ipswich IP1 2BX, Tel: 01473 264833 e-mail: [christine.delcorral@nuleaf.org.uk](mailto:christine.delcorral@nuleaf.org.uk).