

Meeting:	NuLeAF Steering Group, 29 January 2008
Agenda Item:	6
Subject:	NDA: Engagement Activities
Author:	Fred Barker
Purpose:	To provide an overview of developments relating to topics in the NDA Engagement Plan

Introduction

This report provides an overview of developments relating to topics in the NDA Engagement Plan (see the Annex). In subsequent versions the 'plan' will be re-named the 'Engagement Programme', and will have linked 'engagement plans' for specific topics. The report takes into account briefing papers prepared for the National Stakeholder Group (NSG) in November and the report of that meeting. The report addresses the following topics:

A) Topics discussed at the NSG in November 07

- Business plan
- Strategy review
- 'Value framework'
- Integrated waste strategy
- Asset strategy
- Skills strategy

B) Updates on other topics in the NDA Engagement Plan

- Review of local arrangements for engagement
- Site end states
- High level waste and spent fuel disposal
- Implementation of repository
- Review of waste stores
- LLW strategy
- Contaminated land
- Hazard baseline

Recommendations

That the Steering Group agrees to:

- 1 welcome publication of the NDA Engagement Plan, topic-based briefing papers to the NSG, and the report of the November NSG meeting;

- 2 request that the NDA continue to develop the Engagement Programme and associated plans, ensure that they are kept up-to-date and that stakeholders are alerted to significant changes;
- 3 authorise the Executive Director to participate in the early stages of the Strategic Environmental Assessment that will inform the NDA Strategy review;
- 4 consider a report at its next meeting on key developments, including preparations for the Strategy review, development of the value framework, publication of papers for comment on aspects of waste strategy, the outcome of the study on high level waste and spent fuel disposal, publication of the draft repository Lifetime Plan, and the outcome of the waste stores review; and
- 5 brief member authorities on developments in the next issue of the e-bulletin.

A Topics discussed at the National Stakeholder Group in November 07

The report of discussions at the NSG is available at:

<http://www.nda.gov.uk/documents/upload/Meeting-Report-from-NDA-National-Stakeholder-Group-NSG-November-2007.pdf>

Key aspects of the discussion and subsequent developments are summarised as appropriate under the topic headings below.

1 Draft Business Plan

The NDA is currently undertaking consultation on the draft three-year Business Plan. This was subject to considerable discussion at the NSG (see p4-24 of the NSG report). Proposed comments on the draft Business Plan are set out under item 7 on the SG agenda.

2 Strategy Review

The NDA published its first Strategy in April 06 and is now preparing to undertake a full review. This review will be informed by a Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA). The timetable for the review is currently under discussion, and is not now likely to start for at least six months. As a result of discussion at the NSG, the NDA has agreed to prepare an engagement plan for the review, setting out when and how stakeholders will have opportunity to be involved in the process. The proposed comments on the draft Business Plan (item 7) highlight the need for stakeholder participation in the early stage of the SEA involving the identification of 'realistic alternatives'. Further detail about the strategy review will be reported to the April meeting of the SG.

3 Value Framework

This is being developed in response to the need for the NDA to be able to communicate the value of its work, and to develop a process to inform and explain decision-making about priorities. Reference is made in the proposed comments on the draft Business Plan (item 7 below) to the urgent need to make good progress with such work. The Executive Director (ED) is attending a workshop on development of the value framework on 23 January and will report verbally to the SG. Further information is available on p35-36 of the report of the November NSG meeting.

4 Integrated Waste Management Strategy

Work is underway within the NDA to produce a national Integrated Waste Strategy (IWS), which will build on the individual site IWSs being produced on an annual cycle. It is currently anticipated that the IWS will consist of a set of position papers on individual waste-related topics. The NDA intends to publish draft position papers for comment on its website, and to have finalised all the position papers by early 2009. Further information is available on p32-34 of the NSG report and at [New Group will help NDA develop Waste Strategies](#).

A strategy group has been established to oversee preparation of the position papers. The ED has been invited to attend the second meeting of the group, which is expected to take place in March. The outcome of this meeting will be reported to the SG meeting on 30 April.

5 Asset Strategy

NDA owns 13,000 acres of land, covered by a wide range of tenants and generating £6 million income a year. In order to guide the management of this portfolio, the NDA has prepared a draft Asset Management Plan and Strategy (AMPS). This covers:

- Definitions of legal responsibilities
- Devolvement to local stakeholder management where appropriate
- Economic diversification
- Improved environmental sustainability
- Increased rental income and capital receipts

The NDA is considering how to involve SSGs and local communities in asset management, and intends to produce a plan for each site. A programme of visits to SSGs to discuss asset strategy is planned for the next 9-15 months. The NDA is taking comments on the draft AMPS until March. Further information is available on p28-29 of the NSG report.

6 Skills Strategy

Building on the skills strategy set out in the 2006 Strategy, the NDA has prepared a skills strategy document, setting out the supporting actions needed to ensure a suitably skilled and qualified workforce is in place to deliver the NDA's mission. The document will form part of the NDA Strategy review (see above) and is to be published shortly. At the NSG stakeholders pointed out that in some areas funding constraints and programme delays are not conducive to recruiting and maintaining skills (see p30-31 of the NSG report).

B Updates on Other Topics in the NDA Engagement Plan

7 Review of Local Arrangements for Engagement

This topic is subject to a separate report on the SG agenda (item 8).

8 Site End States Reconciliation Process

The outputs from this process will be fed into the NDA Strategy Review and have been summarised and reviewed in NuLeAF Briefing Paper 11 at: www.nuleaf.org.uk/nuleaf/documents/2007-11-16_Briefing_Paper_11_Site_End_States.pdf.

9 High Level Waste and Spent Fuel Disposal

The NDA is developing disposal concepts for HLW and SF. It has undertaken a study to:

- provide illustrations of the type of disposal facility that might be feasible in different circumstances; and
- compile basic data for use in comparison of disposal concepts during the siting process.

The study has considered a set of 12 generic disposal concepts (see http://www.nda.gov.uk/documents/upload/NSG29a_annex_SF_and_HLW_diagrams.pdf).

Each concept has been considered against the five broad geological environments in the UK that offer feasible conditions for repository development. The study report is due to be published shortly and will form the basis for discussion with stakeholders.

10 Implementation of Repository

The NDA is preparing a Lifetime Plan for repository implementation, including preparation of cost estimates. The LTP will set out a proposed scope, schedule, cost, risk and procurement schedule. The intention is to have a draft 'working plan' in place by April 08 to inform discussions with Government, regulators and potential host communities. A briefing paper to the NSG states that the NDA will discuss the draft LTP with NuLeAF (see <http://www.nda.gov.uk/documents/loader.cfm?url=/commonspot/security/getfile.cfm&pageid=15462>).

11 Review of Waste Stores

The NDA is reviewing its interim storage needs for ILW and HLW, taking into account CoRWM's recommendations. The outcome of the storage review will require approval by Government and will be incorporated in the review of NDA Strategy. The review is not focussing solely on the NDA, but includes storage arrangements across the UK. It is addressing the robustness of current facilities against timescale changes, planning constraints, monitoring and inspection regimes and future waste arisings. A final report is expected in March.

12 LLW Strategy

This topic is subject to a separate report on the SG agenda (item 5).

13 Contaminated Land

The NDA has carried out a review of the status of land contamination at its sites, and has concluded in most cases that Site Licensee Companies need to do more work to investigate and characterise contaminated land. This work will seek to identify the amount of contaminated land that can be managed in situ, or which has to be managed as waste. The main findings will be fed into the NDA Strategy review and inform the preparation of site-based remediation scenarios. Further information is available at:

<http://www.nda.gov.uk/documents/loader.cfm?url=/commonspot/security/getfile.cfm&pageid=15472>

14 Hazard Baseline

This project is assessing the level of hazard posed by radioactive wastes at NDA sites, and developing ways of measuring progress in treating wastes. It is anticipated that project outputs will be made available at the meeting of the National Stakeholder Group (NSG) on 21-22 May. Further information is available at:

[Project to Assess Levels of Concern posed by Radioactive Wastes at NDA sites](#)

Annex: NDA National Stakeholder Engagement Plan

[Version 2.3] Ref CD6

Aim

This document sets out the NDA's planned stakeholder engagement over the next 12-18 months, from October 2007 onwards. It informs stakeholders' decisions as to which engagement they wish to become actively involved in, depending on their interests and resources.

This is the second version of the Engagement Plan. It adds breadth and depth to version 1 (published and consulted on in May 07) and while there are still some areas of engagement which are being defined, these will be added subsequently. Each version of the plan will be published on www.nda.gov.uk, as will the outputs of each strand of engagement.

Topic	Value Framework – Will investigate how the NDA can measure and communicate the value of the work it undertakes to government and stakeholders, and how the information is used to inform decisions.
NDA Lead	Mark Wareing
Decisions points	Complete project scoping and report to NDA Business Management Board – Mar 08 Clarify existing position in redrafted NDA Strategy – Spring 08 Adopt methodologies – mid 2010 (next planned CSR at latest)
Timeframe for engagement	Autumn 07 – end 09
Possible engagement methods	Discussion with NSG Nov 07 To be decided: topic focussed engagement within initial strands of work before Mar 08 Discussion with Spring 08 NSG meeting

Topic	Hazard Baseline – project to assess levels of concern posed by radioactive wastes at NDA sites, and to develop metrics to show progress in treating the waste inventories.
NDA Lead	Patrick Jackson
Decisions points	Factors to consider when assessing 'level of concern' e.g. quantity, form, conditions of storage etc. Schedule of work to reduce the hazard potential. Options for accelerating hazard reduction or cost savings.
Timeframe for	Hazard Baseline information will form part of the overall

engagement	LTP 08 submission and summaries of the information provided in the NDA's annual plans.
Possible engagement methods	Update to Nov 07 NSG meeting, presentation of data to Spring 08 NSG.

Topic	Review of Local Arrangements for engagement – looking at SSGs and related local arrangements for stakeholder engagement with the NDA, to decide on any improvements that could be made
NDA Lead	Richard Griffin
Decisions points	Reporting to NDA and inputs to strategy process – Spring 08
Timeframe for engagement	August – November 07 for data collection and identification of key issues December 07 – Spring 08 for development of proposals and then subsequent implementation
Engagement methods	Questionnaire to wide range of stakeholders Meetings offered to SSG & SLC reps Bilateral meetings as required Report to SSG Chair Forum and/or NSG

Topic	Site End States Reconciliation Process – bringing together and analysing the results of last year's Site End States consultations
NDA Lead	Sara Johnston
Decisions points	Feed into the redrafted NDA Strategy – Spring 08
Timeframe for engagement	Publication of site by site report on conclusion and how stakeholder input was taken account of Project nearly complete, so no further engagement until NDA Strategy review
Engagement methods	Site-focussed meetings to reflect back conclusions are now complete (held in August/September) Update to NSG (information giving) – November 07

Topic	National Waste Management Strategy and Integrated Waste Management Strategy – NDA strategic positions and topic strategies prepared for publication on the NDA website for comment and feedback to share current thinking on waste management topics. First tranche of positions will be available prior to Nov 07 NSG and set out what is meant by NDA waste strategy positions, what is intended and how this will feed into revised NDA strategy/ies. This will give stakeholders an important reference for how the NDA is managing different wastes and tackling issues in an integrated manner.
NDA Lead	Jo Fisher
Decisions points	Aim to update and share web live approach with Nov 07 NSG

	Feed into re-draft of NDA Strategy, Spring 08 Topic specific decisions points (various)
Timeframe for engagement	Autumn 07-end 09 (further engagement will be required and planned beyond this date) Waste strategy positions, iterated and revised from Nov 07 with project updates and feedback received from direct web access
Possible engagement methods	Item for discussion at Nov 07 NSG Possible: selected national stakeholder group discussion/updates, and wider consultation via specific waste topic meetings and workshops. Publish strategies on live basis once approved via NDA and where applicable, by Government

Topic	Asset Strategy – This strategy will guide management of the NDA's property portfolio and local level decision-making
NDA Lead	David Atkinson
Decisions points	Draft Asset Strategy to BERR – Jan 08
Timeframe for engagement	Nov 07 NSG meeting
Possible engagement methods	Briefing Paper to NSG in Nov 07 Discussion at Nov NSG, focussing on draft strategy Volunteers from SSGs to comment on 'mini-asset plans', per site Publish strategy once approved by Gov

Topic	High Level Waste – a review of options for HLW disposal
NDA Lead	John Mathieson
Decisions points	Needs to feed into redrafted NDA Strategy – Spring 08
Timeframe for engagement	July – Nov 07
Possible engagement methods	Update to Nov 07 NSG Could be further engagement in FY 08/09

Topic	Implementation of Repository – update on the NDA's plans to take forward implementation of the nuclear waste repository
NDA Lead	Phil Davies
Decisions points	Government consultation to Nov 07 White Paper expected from Government in first half of 08 First Repository Lifetime Plan to be completed by April 08
Timeframe for	to April 08

engagement	
Possible engagement methods	Update to Nov 07 NSG Presentations to SSG's October 07 Update and discussion at NSG in FY 08/09

Topic	Review of Waste Stores – review of waste storage facilities and in particular will look at environmental protection, safety and planning considerations
NDA Lead	James McKinney
Decisions points	Complete review with recommendations to feed into the redrafted NDA Strategy – Spring 08
Timeframe for engagement	Nov 07 (update to NSG meeting)
Possible engagement methods	Updates to Nov 07 NSG Further engagement as part of the NDA Strategy review process during FY 08/09

Topic	NDA Business Plan consultation – adoption of a three-year rolling Business Plan, updated annually.
NDA Lead	Richard Mrowicki
Decisions points	Submit to BERR and Scottish Government Feb 08
Timeframe for engagement	7 Nov 07 – 31 Jan 08
Possible engagement methods	National public consultation Nov 07-Jan 08 Update (information-giving) to NSG in Nov 07 Publish Business Plan on website 1 Apr 07

Topic	NDA Strategy Consultation – a major review of the NDA's strategy.
NDA Lead	Richard Mrowicki
Decisions points	Strategic Environmental Assessment starts – late 07 Preparation and drafting of Strategy – Spring 08 Strategy Consultation – Autumn 08 Amend and submit to HMG and SE – Spring 09 Publish – Summer 09
Timeframe for engagement	Late 2007 – Summer 2009
Possible engagement methods	Update and discussion at Nov 07 NSG Site level engagement 08/09 National public consultation 08/09

Topic	LLW national policy – NDA implementation of revised Government policy related to nuclear industry LLW strategy development & support to Government on non-nuclear industry LLW strategy development.
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NDA Lead	Jo Fisher
Decisions points	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • NDA Board and DBERR approval of business management approach – October to December 2007 • Government agreement to award LLWR Contract – October 2007 • Contract award and transition of new LLWR contract and Parent Body Agreement – November 2007 to March 2008 • Agreement of new LLWR LTP with UK remit and preliminary operational strategy– March 2008 • Preparation and redrafting of NDA LLW Strategy – Spring 2008 • Option studies and UK LLW Management plan development – Spring 2008 to end 2011 • Consultation and adoption of LLW strategy approach and methodologies Spring 2008 to end 2009 • NDA Strategy consultation – Autumn 2008 • Agreement of LLWR LTP/IWS and developed operational strategies for LLWR - March 2009 • Consultation, review and update of UK LLW Management plan – 2009 to end 2010 • Agreement of LLWR LTP/IWS and UK LLW Management Plan - March 2011 • Ongoing update to NDA strategic positions on web, as appropriate
Timeframe for engagement	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • November 2007 – end 2011 • Ongoing support to DEFRA Non-Nuclear Strategy Project Board (timeline TBC)
Possible engagement methods	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Government engagement via Waste Strategy Co-ordination, RWPG and other interfaces. • National LLW Meetings, selected multi disciplinary stakeholder groups and workshops, as applicable • Regulatory and local authority engagement via periodic meetings • Various seminars, user group and conference communications during transition and beyond April 08 • Waste producer, wider local and regional engagement ongoing from contract award and transition –from Nov 07

Topic	Contaminated Land – national strategy review of contaminated land
NDA Lead	Jo Fisher
Decisions points	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Needs to feed into redrafted NDA Strategy – Spring 2008 • Various site and topic specific decision points expected related to optimisation, best practice review as part of ongoing LTP and IWS iteration.
Timeframe for engagement	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Review ongoing and data gathering and initial analysis phases internally complete • Update to engagement plan Nov 07 NSG • NDA strategy formulation (Autumn 2007 to March

	2008) for input to Spring 2008 Strategy redraft
Possible engagement methods	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Update to national stakeholder group • NDA Strategy review and consultation process • Support to sites and their stakeholder sessions, as applicable • Inter-industry group in Contaminated land and other networks • Wider engagement on specific issues, where relevant via workshops, seminars • Update of NDA strategic positions on web, as appropriate • NDA Strategy publication

Topic	Skills Strategy – overview of challenges, themes and initiatives aiming to maintain and develop skills necessary for the NDA's mission.
NDA Lead	Nigel Couzens
Decisions points	Draft Skills Strategy available in November 07 Launch Skills Strategy document in Jan 08
Timeframe for engagement	Seeking NSG input (Nov 07) on the implementation of the strategy, and comments on improvements for next version Integrated into NDA Strategy consultation in 08
Possible engagement methods	Discussion at NSG Nov 07 Publish Skills Strategy document Jan 08