



Issues for NuLeAF to address

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NuLeAF seminar

9 March 2012

Special Interest Group on Nuclear Decommissioning and Radioactive Waste Management





Scope of Presentation

- **LW consolidation**
- **VLLW/LLW disposal**
- **New build radioactive wastes**
- **Spatial planning issues**

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ILW Consolidation: NuLeAF policy

Encourage NDA and SLCs to engage early and effectively with the relevant local authorities when considering options for centralised and multi-site approaches, and to only move forward with such approaches where they are supported by the affected local authorities in the light of the overall balance of benefits and disadvantages.

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ILW consolidation: engagement with local authorities

- National engagement – presentation to Nov meeting, membership of IWM Topic Overview Group
- Local engagement – engage relevant local authorities on credible option studies, discuss implications (planning policy, planning permissions, community benefits?)

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ILW consolidation: NuLeAF role

- Keep member local authorities briefed about development of NDA strategy (IWM ToG)
- Discuss community benefits protocol with NDA
- Alert relevant authorities to NDA credible option papers
- Facilitate meetings between NDA/SLCs/LAs
- Provide information and advice to LAs as requested
- Feedback into IWM ToG

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LLW disposal: NuLeAF policy

- Seek to ensure that LLW strategy is implemented in ways that can inspire local authority and public confidence.
- Encourage provision of a sufficient evidence base and engagement in discussion about the potential for a more strategic approach to siting.
- Subject to site suitability and local community views, encourage development of local or multi-site LLW management facilities at or adjacent to existing nuclear sites, rather than at non-nuclear sites.

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LLW disposal: call for rethink

- “As the NDA is committed to timely reviews of its strategic positions, we strongly urge it to engage in dialogue with local government to find a better way of securing LLW disposal routes. Working together we think there is a better prospect of finding publicly acceptable sites for disposal of LLW.”

Councillor Tim Knowles, NuLeAF Press Release, 1 February 2012

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LLW disposal: engagement with local authorities

- National engagement – membership of Programme Delivery Group, but need mechanism to identify and address issues and concerns going forward
- Local engagement:
 - LAs with licensed nuclear sites engage early on eg on cases for on-site disposal and discuss implications (eg Bradwell, Sizewell and Dungeness)
 - LAs without licensed nuclear sites – lessons from King's Cliffe?

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LLW disposal: NuLeAF role

- Review implications and brief local authorities about programme development (PDG, joint LLW management plans/evidence base)
- Alert relevant authorities to eg SLC cases for on-site disposal
- Facilitate meetings between NDA/SLCs/LAs
- Provide information and advice to LAs as requested
- Feedback into Programme Delivery Group

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New build and radioactive wastes: NuLeAF policy

- Seek to ensure that proposals for radioactive waste management and decommissioning of new nuclear power stations are appropriate and do not prejudice effective management of the nuclear legacy
- Promote debate and thinking about the ways in which ... a more coordinated 'across site' approach could be taken in locations that have or are proposed to have multiple licensed nuclear sites.

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New build: NuLeAF role

- Liaise with NNLAG (joint protocol agreed)
- Review developments and brief local authorities (BP22, Feb 2012 – GDA, FDP, HPC proposals)
- Asked ONR to consider RS views on wet v dry spent fuel storage
- Work with member local authorities – information and advice to Somerset CC on radwaste topic paper

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Spatial planning: key national developments

- “Presumption in favour of sustainable development” - where LA plans are not up-to-date, or do not provide a clear basis for decisions, there should be a presumption that permission should be granted (draft NPPF).
- Emphasis on early engagement to identify community needs and real options prior to applications reaching the formal planning process (Waste Policy Review).
- PPS10 to be revised and annexed to a National Waste Management Plan - consultation in 212.



Interim advice to WPAs – on-site disposal of LLW/VLLW

In order to reflect the different aspirations of WPAs at different nuclear licensed sites, policy could *either* state that:

- The preferred location for VLLW/LLW disposal is within the nuclear site where it arises. If a rigorous assessment demonstrates that this is not practicable then land adjacent to the nuclear site should be assessed. Only if that is also demonstrated to be impracticable should more distant suitable sites be considered. *or*
- The preferred location for VLLW/LLW disposal is at suitable existing or planned facilities outside the WPA's area. If such capacity is not available, consideration should first be given to use of existing landfill within the WPA's area. If this is also not available, disposal at new facilities within or next to the nuclear site should be considered.

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Interim advice to WPAs – cross boundary ‘imports’

- Any proposals for a new facility, or for a new permission for use of an existing facility, to treat, store or dispose of significant volumes of VLLW, LLW or ILW from outside the WPA’s area would need to (a) be strongly justified, (b) demonstrate that the planning impacts are acceptable and (c) demonstrate that local social and economic benefits outweigh negative impacts.



Spatial planning: questions under discussion

- How relevant to radioactive waste management is the KPO which encourages communities to take more responsibility for their own waste?
- What are the implications of the duty to cooperate for radioactive waste management?
- How and in what processes should judgements of public acceptability be made?
- What part should community benefits play?

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Next steps

- Publish seminar report
- Discuss implications (RWPG and NuLeAF SG)
- Review interim advice to WPAs in light of developments in : NDA strategy (consolidation); LLW programme delivery (capacity gap analysis, joint LLW plans, VLLW/LLW disposal); and spatial planning (NPPF, revisions to PPS10).
- Tell us if you think there are other things we should be doing!