

## **NuLeAF Radioactive Waste Planning Group**

Note of the meeting held on 8 September, 2011 at Local Government House.

### **1. Attendance:**

Fred Barker	NuLeAF
Adam Collier	Hampshire County Council
Peter Day	Oxfordshire County Council
Katherine Dove	Kent County Council
Catherine Draper	NuLeAF
Richard Evans	Cumbria County Council
Louise Nurser	Lancashire County Council
David Palk	Suffolk County Council
Lisa Price	South Gloucestershire Council
Phil Watson	Northamptonshire County Council

#### *Apologies:*

Debi Bunkell	Maldon District Council
Bob Chamberlain	Suffolk Coastal District Council
Richard Conway	Purbeck District Council
Gillian Ellis-King	South Gloucestershire Council
Mike Garrity	Dorset County Council
Paul Prowting	Hampshire County Council
Kerry Rickards	Sedgemoor District Council
Steve Smith	Copeland Borough Council
Lesley Stenhouse	Essex County Council

### **2. Note of the meeting of 8 December, 2010.**

The Note was agreed and will be posted on the NuLeAF website

***Action: CD***

### **3. Matters Arising**

A Table of Actions was circulated before the meeting. Those actions not completed are addressed elsewhere within agenda items.

RE indicated that there would be a need to return to the issue of environmental permitting.

### **4. Update on national developments in radioactive waste management**

A note setting out updates on national developments had been circulated in advance of the meeting. It covered the following:

- the August meeting of the LLW Programme Delivery Group
- the June meetings with NDA, SLCs and regulators

- the programme for siting a Geological Disposal Facility for higher activity wastes

LN advised the meeting that Lancashire CC had met with Environment Agency regarding the Clifton Marsh landfill site. A draft permit had been issued and sent to DECC to consider whether the application should be called in.

FB sought the group's views on identifying a suitable representative (with contaminated land expertise) for the NDA Topic Overview Group on site restoration. It was suggested that the secretariat identify district authorities which have dealt with significant contaminated land issues. LN also offered to take soundings from the County Analysts Department at LCC.

***Action CD and LN***

## **5. Update on local developments**

Updates focused on site-based developments. MWDF updates are considered under item 7.

**Suffolk:** DECC had approved the application for a Spent Fuel Dry Store at Sizewell B. There had been comment in the media about the mitigation package which had been agreed.

**Cumbria:** Applications for further development at the LLWR (new disposal vaults) and for a change from storage to disposal (for vault 9) had been received from LLWR Ltd. WRG has been advised that they will need to submit a full application in order to extend the life of Lillyhall land fill. No committee date yet set for determining the Keekle Head application. A Habitat Regulations Assessment was now required.

**Northamptonshire:** A Judicial Review of the King's Cliffe application decision is to take place. The grounds relate to the Environmental Impact Assessment process (the need to consider the cumulative impacts of current and impending applications). Expected hearing date is 5 November 2011. Submission of further applications expected shortly. If submitted after 1 October, these will be considered by the IPC.

**South Gloucestershire:** Remaining reactor at Oldbury will close at end of 2012.

**Kent:** No developments.

**Oxfordshire:** NDA is consulting on the 'credible options' for dealing with nuclear materials from Harwell. These include the transfer of some materials to Sellafield, and storage of some ILW from Harwell and Winfrith at Harwell. It is unclear from the documentation what facilities would be required and what quantity of ILW would remain.

**Lancashire:** Application for disposal facility at Springfields is still awaited.

**Hampshire:** No developments.

## **6. Implications of (A) Draft National Planning Policy Framework (NNPF) and (B) Government Review of Waste Policy for Radioactive Waste Management**

A paper highlighting relevant aspects of the NNPF consultation and the Government review of waste policy was circulated prior to the meeting.

The meeting noted the preliminary comments in the paper. DP pointed out that the review of PPS10 in early 2012 provided opportunity to clarify the status of NDA Strategy and the UK LLW Strategy in planning terms.

## **7. Review of Approaches to Radioactive Waste Management in MWDF Policies**

A paper was circulated prior to the meeting summarising the approaches taken to radioactive waste management by 7 waste planning authorities with nuclear sites. The paper raised a number of issues. The meeting agreed that it was not advisable for planning policies in MWDFs to be silent on key aspects of radioactive waste management. However, DP highlighted the difficulty of addressing 'cross boundary' issues in the absence of detailed assessments of need. PW also pointed to the need to take account of the findings of the Kings Cliffe Inquiry, including whether LLW should be considered to require 'specialist facilities'.

In the light of discussion, FB will produce revised draft advice on addressing key aspects of radwaste management which will be circulated amongst the group for comment.

**Action: FB**

RE suggested that it would be appropriate to invite the Planning Inspectorate to attend the next RWPG meeting to seek their views. FB will consider this suggestion in the light of responses to the draft advice.

**Action: FB**

## **8. Update re Potential Radioactive Waste Community Benefits Protocol**

A paper was circulated prior to the meeting, including an early draft outlining aspects of a protocol for new nuclear power stations produced by a Task Group of the New Nuclear Local Authorities Group (NNLAG).

A number of points were raised in discussion, including: whether community benefit could truly be considered separate from the planning process; whether the definition of 'community benefit' should include reference to addressing burdens; the practicalities of separately managing a community benefits process; and how to get a handle on defining a minimum value.

FB will redraft the NuLeAF document outlining points to address in developing a protocol and circulate for further comment.

**Action: FB**

### **9. Date of next meeting**

The next meeting will be held on 8 December, 2011, 12.30 to 3.30, Room 7.1, Local Government House, Smith Square, London

### **10. AoB**

FB raised the possibility of organising a seminar covering the LLW 'capacity gap' analysis and issues of engagement and public acceptability. The group supported the suggestion that a seminar be held in early March in place of the usual meeting. The subsequent meeting would be held on 7 June 2012.

**Action: FB/CD**