

NuLeAF: NUCLEAR LEGACY ADVISORY FORUM

LGA SPECIAL INTEREST GROUP ON RADIOACTIVE WASTE MANAGEMENT AND NUCLEAR DECOMMISSIONING

Minutes of the Steering Group, 29 October 2008, Manchester Town Hall

Present:

Cllr Allan Holliday (Chair) - Copeland Borough Council
Cllr Julian Swainson (Vice-Chair) - Suffolk County Council
Cllr Mike Davidson - Allerdale Borough Council
Cllr Tony Markley - Cumbria County Council
Cllr Bill Risby - Manchester City Council
Cllr Bernard Whittle - Lancashire County Council
Cllr Ken Williams - Barrow Borough Council
Doug Bamsey - Sedgemoor District Council
Fred Barker - NuLeAF
Catherine Draper - NuLeAF
Adrian Hurst - Hartlepool Borough Council
Stewart Kemp - Cumbria County Council
Fergus McMorrow - Copeland Borough Council
Peter Moorcroft - Lancashire County Council
Sean Morris - Leeds City Council

		ACTION
1	WELCOME	
1.1	Cllr Holliday welcomed everyone to the meeting, especially first time attendees.	
1.2	Apologies were received from: Cllr Eddie Allcock, Suffolk County Council; Sue Brett, Cumbria County Council; Tim Button, Dacorum County Council; Bob Chamberlin, Suffolk Coastal District Council; Richard Conway, Purbeck District Council; Jerry Crossley, Kent County Council; Tony Curd, Waveney District Council; Steve Giblin, Tameside District Council; Shaun Gorman, Cumbria County Council; David Green, Chelmsford Borough Council; Phil Greenup, South Lakeside District Council; Cllr Neil Gulliver, Chelmsford Borough Council; Leigh Harrington, Kent County Council; Peter Jackson, South Gloucestershire District Council; Barry James, Somerset County Council; Martin King, Kent County Council, Cllr Tim Knowles, Cumbria County Council, Cllr Geoff Lilley, Hartlepool Borough Council; Cllr Nancy Matthews, Flintshire County Council; Peter Mayes, Lancashire County Council; Cllr Aled Morris Jones, Ynys Mon County Council; Cllr Roy Oldham, Tameside District Council; Adam Paynter, Cornwall County Council; Clive Pink,	

	Suffolk Coastal District Council; John Pitchford, Suffolk County Council; Cllr George Regan, Dundee City Council; Kerry Rickards, Sedgemoor District Council; Liz Shier, Kent County Council; Lesley Stenhouse, Essex County Council; Heather Taylor, Lancashire County Council; Sandy Taylor, Birmingham City Council; Sharon Thompson, Kent County Council; Susan Tipping, Kent County Council; Dylan Williams, Ynys Mon County Council, Tim Williams, Vale of White Horse District Council; Mark Woodger, Essex County Council.	
2	MINUTES OF THE MEETING ON 7 JULY 2008	
	The Minutes of the meeting held on 7 July 2008 were agreed as a true record and will be posted on the website.	CD
3	MATTERS ARISING	
	DB asked for an update on BESSLAG (British Energy Southern Sites Local Authorities Group). The group was communicating electronically about new build issues. DB thought it would be timely for the group to be more proactive. The point of contact is John Pitchford at Suffolk County Council john.pitchford@et.suffolkcc.gov.uk	
4	GDF SITING PROCESS	
	<p>FB presented the report which covered:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Responses from local authorities • Liaison with government • Regulatory Interface Management Group • CoRWM • Packaging review • Current consultations <p>FB noted that Allerdale BC are likely to reach a decision about making an Expression of Interest (Eol) by mid December (not at the end of November as stated in the written report).</p> <p>Following a ‘soundings process’ Cumbria CC’s cabinet is considering the issue on 4 November.</p> <p>Copeland have made an Eol and invited potential partners to a meeting on 18 November to discuss setting up a Shadow Siting Partnership. NuLeAF has been invited to participate. It was agreed that JS should represent NuLeAF and that FB should also attend.</p>	

	<p>The SG also endorsed the main points to be made in response to current consultations as outlined in the report.</p> <p>Further points discussed were:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • There is a need for Government to provide further public explanation of the role and extent of engagement and benefit packages. This would be pursued in future liaison meetings with Government. • There is a need to ensure that local authorities are kept up-to-date with developments in the siting process. This will be discussed with the LGA. 	<p>FB</p> <p>FB</p> <p>FB</p>
5	LOW LEVEL WASTE STRATEGY DEVELOPMENT	
5.1	<p>FB presented the report which covered:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Key points from the meeting of the NDA's LLW Strategy Group (LSG) on 14-15 August • Key points from the meeting of the LLW Officer Working Group on 18 September 	
5.2	<p>FB advised the meeting that he is chairing a sub-group of the NDA LSG looking at sharing good practice on risk communication to help ensure that all developers of LLW management facilities are up to the same standard in their engagement with local communities.</p>	
5.3	<p>The first case study - on LLW management at Springfields - has been produced in liaison with BW. Others are in draft form. Once completed these will be posted on the website.</p>	CD
5.4	<p>FB/DB reported on their meeting with Government on Community Benefits (CB) for non-GDF facilities. The meeting had discussed the legal basis for CBs and the criteria for deciding which types of facilities might be eligible. FB also referred to the position at Dounreay, where discussions were taking place about a CB package in association with a proposed LLW disposal facility. A number of points were made in discussion, including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • There were limitations and weaknesses in approaches based on S106 (planning obligations) • CBC had reviewed the powers available during discussions about a proposed LLWR community fund. FM would send a paper to FB. 	FM

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> It was important that Minerals and Waste Development Frameworks set out local policy on CBs <p>It was agreed that a paper on a proposed way forward should be considered at a future meeting of the Strategy Review Group.</p>	FB
6	NDA STRATEGY REVIEW AND DEVELOPMENTS	
	<p>FB presented the report which covered:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The first meeting of NuLeAF's Strategy Review Group (SRG) Submission of comments on the NDA's Pu Options Paper Arrangements for a NuLeAF seminar on 2 December on 'The Future of Nuclear Legacy Management in the UK' NDA funding arrangements 'Safe Secure Sites' contingency planning (S3) Comments to CoRWM on interim storage Workshops on interim storage National Stakeholder Group, 5-6 November <p>FB highlighted that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> There is currently no clear timetable from NDA for taking decisions on the S3 programme. The NDA workshop on their review of interim storage had identified ways of improving the draft report to Government. The NDA draft business plan will be discussed at the NSG on 5-6 November and will be out for consultation from 3 November to 26 January. <p>It was agreed that a draft response to the business plan should be considered at the next meeting of the SRG.</p> <p>The SG endorsed arrangements for the 2 December seminar. SK pointed to the opportunity to involve non-member local authorities.</p>	FB
7	RADIOACTIVE WASTE MANAGEMENT AND THE FUTURE OF NUCLEAR POWER	
7.1	<p>FB presented the report which considered:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> the way radioactive waste management is addressed in the current consultation on the proposed process for Strategic Siting Assessment (SSA) for new nuclear power stations; and the Government's response to the consultation on 'Funded Decommissioning Programme Guidance' for 	

7.2	<p>new nuclear power stations.</p> <p>The following points were made in discussion:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • BW stated that it was important that an integrated waste strategy should be applied across all new build sites. • SK asked whether the Government's response on the funded decommissioning programme had addressed the question of developer funding for community benefits. FB agreed to follow this up during further engagement. • BR reminded the SG that it should be careful in the way that it engages on radwaste and new build issues, so that it does not go beyond its terms of reference. 	FB
7.3	<p>The SG agreed to respond to consultation on the process for SSA by proposing ways that the criteria for assessing sites should refer more fully to radioactive waste management, as set out in the written report.</p>	FB
8	FUTURE MEETINGS	
	<p>3 February, 2009 - SG meeting at Suffolk County Council offices in Ipswich 28 April, 2009 - Maryport at the invitation of Allerdale Borough Council.</p>	
9	ANY OTHER BUSINESS	
9.1	<p>JS advised the meeting that the review currently underway in Suffolk is likely to result in the re-organisation of local government in the area. Whatever the outcome he felt confident that a local authority in Suffolk would still be able to host NuLeAF employees. The Minister's response to the Boundary Committee's recommendations should be available in time for reporting to the February 09 meeting.</p>	