

<b>Meeting:</b>	NuLeAF Annual General Meeting, 15 October, 2014
<b>Agenda Item:</b>	4
<b>Subject:</b>	Annual Report
<b>Author:</b>	Catherine Draper
<b>Purpose:</b>	To provide an overview of organisational developments and activities since the AGM in 2013

## **Introduction**

This report provides an overview of organisational developments and activities since the AGM in 2013.

## **Recommendation**

It is recommended that the AGM agrees that the report presents a true picture of organisational developments and activities.

## **1. Context**

The last year has seen major developments in nuclear legacy and radioactive waste management and in NuLeAF's associated work programme.

Significant events include:

- Publication of new White Paper on siting a Geological Disposal Facility (GDF);
- Publication of the shortlist of sites for storage of the Intermediate Level Waste produced as a result of the Submarine Dismantling Project (SDP);
- Review of NDA's Low Level Waste (LLW) Strategy;
- Development of a strategy for the management of Higher Activity Wastes (HAW)
- Appointment of new Parent Body Organisation (PBO) for the Magnox and RSRL sites;
- Review of the decommissioning strategy for Sellafield.

## **2. Overview of Organisational Developments and Activities**

Organisational developments and activities have included:

### ***Steering Group***

Four meetings of the Steering Group (SG) have been held in: Manchester (21 January) London (9 April and 15 October) and in Preston (24 July). Guest speakers were:

- Dr Anna Clark, NDA gave a presentation on developments in the site restoration programme; and
- Phil Reeve, Sellafield Ltd gave a presentation on decommissioning and future strategy for Sellafield.
- Clive Nixon, NDA gave a presentation on the management of the UK plutonium stockpile
- Representatives from Cavendish Fluor Partnership, the new PBO for the Magnox and RSRL sites spoke to the meeting on their approach to socio-economic engagement.

### ***Member Authorities***

NuLeAF now has 108 member authorities comprising: 18 contributing authorities, 81 corresponding members, 3 National Park Authorities and 6 Nuclear Free Local Authorities (FLA) co-optees. The list of member authorities is attached.

### ***The Radioactive Waste Planning Group (RWPG)***

The RWPG has met three times since the last AGM. It continues to provide a mechanism for officer review and discussion of key issues prior to preparation of reports for the Steering Group. During the course of the year issues it has considered include:

- Coastal erosion and flooding and the implications for nuclear licensed sites;
- the Duty to Co-operate and its implications for management of radioactive waste;

- changes to planning policy and guidance, providing direct input to central government;
- the timing of stakeholder engagement;
- dealing with Low-Activity Low Level Waste in Waste Local Plans; and
- fracking and radioactive waste management.

The meetings continue to be well attended, with around 15 officers, plus NuLeAF. Core membership includes: Cumbria County Council, Dorset County Council, Essex County Council, Hampshire County Council, Kent County Council, Lancashire County Council, Northamptonshire County Council, Oxfordshire County Council, Somerset County Council, South Gloucestershire Council, and Suffolk County Council. In addition, representatives from Suffolk Coastal District Council and West Berkshire Council have also attended.

### ***Siting a Geological Disposal Facility process***

In autumn 2013, the UK Government published for consultation proposals for the review of the siting process for a Geological Disposal Facility (GDF). NuLeAF's response to the consultation can be found on our website<sup>1</sup>.

Subsequent to the consultation a revised White Paper was published on 24 July 2014. NuLeAF has prepared an interim Briefing Paper<sup>2</sup> on the new policy approach. Whilst NuLeAF welcomes the UK Government's continued commitment to the volunteerist approach, NuLeAF feels that there are several areas which still need to be addressed and will continue to liaise with RWM and DECC on this. Monthly telephone conferences have been established, and NuLeAF is looking to engage with RWM and DECC in order to best represent and advise local government.

### ***Services to Member Authorities***

Services to member authorities continue to be maintained and new opportunities to provide added benefit sought.

E-bulletins have been published following each Steering Group meeting summarising the discussions and decisions and alerting the readership to other topics of interest.

Three new [Briefing Papers](#) giving advice on; fracking and radioactive waste management, Community Benefits, and on the Siting Review for the Geological Disposal Facility (GDF) have been published. An Interim Briefing Paper on the new White Paper on the siting of the GDF has also been produced.

A newsletter rounding up items of interest, dates for the diary and current consultations is sent out to contributing member authorities in those months when an e-bulletin is not issued.

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<sup>1</sup> <http://www.nuleaf.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2014/02/NuLeAF-response-to-consultation-on-review-of-GDF-siting-November-2013.pdf>

<sup>2</sup> <http://www.nuleaf.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2014/09/Draft-Briefing-on-Revised-White-Paper-on-Geological-Disposal-Facility.pdf>

The website was rebuilt and re-launched in March/April following the withdrawal of support from the then Internet Service Provider (ISP). The new website has a clear, simple format, with uncluttered presentation. Members who were surveyed for the review of NuLeAF meetings and engagement said that they found the website a useful information resource.

Members are encouraged to join the NuLeAF group on LinkedIn and use it as a platform for peer to peer advice and support. NuLeAF is currently developing a media strategy which will assess whether there are other ways in which the organisation can engage with members or the mainstream and local government media.

### ***Seminar***

The annual seminar was held on 16 June 2014 at Local Government House, Smith Square, London. The topic was Radioactive Waste Management: Local authorities and regulation. Presentations were given by:

Participants also came from DECC, the Environment Agency, Kingston University, Magnox Ltd, NDA, North London Waste Plan. A full report on the seminar is published on the NuLeAF [website](#).

### ***Responses to Consultation***

During the course of the year [consultation responses](#) and comments have been submitted on:

- A review of the Geological Disposal Facility (GDF) siting process
- NDA Draft Business Plan 2014-17
- Preferred options for the storage of Intermediate Level Waste (ILW) and Fuel Element Debris (FED)
- The updated Low Level Waste Repository Environmental Safety Case
- The management of overseas nuclear fuels held in the UK
- Credible options for the management of Uranics
- UK strategy for the management of NORM (Naturally Occurring Radioactive Materials)
- Disposal of Higher Activity Wastes (Welsh Government)
- Office for Nuclear Regulation (ONR) Strategy
- Proposed variations for the disposal of radioactive waste at Hunterston and Torness nuclear power stations

### ***Events and Representation at Meetings***

Officers have arranged or attended a large number of meetings and workshops on MRWS and other nuclear legacy management issues. These include:

- the NDA's Integrated Waste Management, Critical Enabler and Site Restoration Theme Overview Groups;
- briefings on topics discussed at the NDA's Spent Nuclear Fuels Theme Overview Group;
- Sellafield Decommissioning Group;
- the LLWR's Integrated LLW Programme Delivery Overview Group, Regulatory Group, and Alternative Disposal Routes for VLLW Group;

- the Advisory Group and Sub-Groups of the MoD's Submarine Dismantling Project;
- GDF liaison meetings with Government and Radioactive Waste Management;
- Technical workshop at the British Geological Society regarding the provision of guidance for the GDF siting process;
- the MRWS Regulatory Interface Management group;
- workshops and associated the Stakeholder Review Group as part of DECC's review of the MRWS process;
- NDA annual stakeholder meeting; and
- InSOTEC<sup>3</sup> conference in Berlin.

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<sup>3</sup> This EU funded programme is about sharing experience of stakeholder engagement with technical issues across GDF and address key problem areas.

# **NULEAF MEMBER AUTHORITIES**

## **Contributing members:**

1. Allerdale Borough Council
2. Barrow-in-Furness Borough Council
3. Copeland Borough Council
4. Cumbria County Council \*
5. Dorset County Council
6. Hampshire County Council
7. Hartlepool Borough Council
8. Manchester City Council
9. Oxfordshire County Council
10. Plymouth City Council
11. Sedgemoor District Council
12. Shepway District Council
13. Somerset County Council \*
14. South Gloucester Council
15. Suffolk Coastal District Council
16. Suffolk County Council
17. West Somerset District Council
18. Ynys Mon County Council

\* subscription pending

## **Corresponding members**

19. Arun District Council
20. Ashford District Council
21. Birmingham City Council
22. Blackpool Borough Council
23. Braintree Borough Council
24. Breckland District Council
25. Broadland District Council
26. Bromsgrove District Council
27. Caerphilly County Borough Council
28. Carlisle City Council
29. Chelmsford Borough Council
30. Chesterfield Borough Council
31. Cheshire West and Chester Council
32. Colchester Borough Council
33. Cornwall Council
34. Dacorum District Council
35. Denbighshire County Council
36. Derby City Council
37. Derbyshire Dales District Council
38. Devon County Council
39. Durham County Council
40. Eden District Council
41. Essex County Council
42. Forest Heath District Council
43. Fylde Borough Council
44. Gosport Borough Council
45. Great Yarmouth Borough Council
46. Greater London Authority
47. Gwynedd County Council
48. Halton Borough Council
49. Harlow District Council
50. Hyndburn Borough Council
51. Kent County Council
52. Kings Lynn & West Norfolk District Council
53. Lancashire County Council

54. Lancaster City Council
55. Leeds City Council
56. Leicestershire County Council
57. Lewes District Council
58. Liverpool City Council
59. London Borough of Hackney
60. London Borough of Harrow
61. London Borough of Hillingdon
62. London Borough of Newham
63. London Borough of Tower Hamlets
64. Maldon District Council
65. Melton Borough Council
66. Merseyside Environmental Advisory Service
67. Newcastle-under-Lyme Borough Council
68. Norfolk County Council
69. Northamptonshire County Council
70. North East Derbyshire District Council
71. North London Waste Planning
72. North Norfolk District Council
73. Norwich City Council
74. Nottinghamshire County Council
75. Northumberland County Council
76. Oldham Metropolitan Borough Council
77. Pembrokeshire County Council
78. Purbeck District Council
79. Rutland County Council
80. Scarborough District Council
81. Solihull Metropolitan Borough Council
82. South Lakeland District Council
83. South Ribble Borough Council
84. Southampton City Council
85. South Norfolk District Council
86. Stroud District Council
87. Spelthorne Borough Council
88. Staffordshire County Council
89. Tameside Metropolitan Borough Council
90. Taunton Deane Borough Council
91. Tendring District Council
92. Tunbridge Wells District Council
93. Vale of the White Horse District Council
94. Wansbeck District Council
95. Waveney District Council
96. West Berkshire District Council
97. West Lancashire District Council
98. West Lindsey District Council
99. Worcestershire County Council

**NFLA authorities**

100. Caerphilly County Council
101. Cardiff City Council
102. Hull City Council
103. Leeds City Council
104. Oxford City Council
105. Rotherham Metropolitan Borough Council

**National Parks Authorities**

106. Lake District National Park Authority
107. North Yorkshire Moors National Park Authority
108. Snowdonia National Park Authority