

NuLeAF: NUCLEAR LEGACY ADVISORY FORUM

LGA SPECIAL INTEREST GROUP ON RADIOACTIVE WASTE MANAGEMENT AND NUCLEAR DECOMMISSIONING

Draft Minutes of the Steering Group held on 10 March, 2016, Room 301, Town Hall, Manchester

Present:

Cllr Brendan Sweeney, Barrow-in-Furness Borough Council (Vice-Chair)
Cllr David Blackburn, Leeds City Council
Cllr David Chubb, South Gloucestershire Council
Cllr Grace Fletcher-Hackwood, Manchester City Council
Cllr David Moore, Copeland Borough Council
Cllr David Southward, Cumbria County Council
Gillian Ellis-King, South Gloucestershire Council
Richard Griffin, Cumbria County Council
John Groves, Copeland Borough Council
Nik Hardy, Allerdale Borough Council
Katharine Harvey, Shepway District Council
Sean Morris, Manchester City Council
John Pitchford, Suffolk County Council
Guy Robinson, Somerset County Council
Philip Matthews, NuLeAF
Catherine Draper, NuLeAF

1	WELCOME AND APOLOGIES	ACTION
1.1	The meeting was chaired by Cllr Sweeney, Vice-Chair as Cllr Smith was indisposed following an operation. He welcomed everyone to the meeting especially those were attending the meeting for the first time, and thanked Manchester City Council for hosting the meeting. Participants introduced themselves.	
1.2	Apologies were received from: Mike Garrity – Dorset Borough Council, Lesley Stenhouse - Essex County Council, Bryan Geake - Kent County Council, Rob Sellen – Hampshire County Council, Adrian Hurst – Hartlepool Borough Council, Dylan Williams – Isle of Anglesey Council, Cllr Marcus Johnstone - Lancashire County Council, Lucy Atkinson – Merseyside Environmental Advisory Service, Phil Watson – Northamptonshire County Council, Peter Day and Trevor Brown – Oxfordshire County Council, Richard Conway – Purbeck District Council, Cllr Peter Downing & Doug Bamsey – Sedgemoor District Council, Cllr David Monk – Shepway District Council, Jonathan Cawley – Snowdonia National Park, Cllr Matthew Riddle – South Gloucestershire Council, Cllr Richard Smith – Suffolk County Council, Cllr Geoff Holdcroft & Clive Pink – Suffolk Coastal District Council, Matt Meldrum - West Berkshire Council, Cllr Chris Morgan & Andrew Goodchild - West Somerset Council.	

2	MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 28 JANUARY, 2016	
2.1	GR asked that 5.3.2 be amended to merely reflect that SSGs should not be regarded as the only route for engagement with local authorities.	CD
2.2	Subject to the above amendment the Minutes of the meeting held on 28 January 2016 were held to be a true and accurate record and will be posted on the website.	CD
3	MATTERS ARISING	
3.1	5.2 Contact had now been made with Danny Fox, but a time to discuss developments in Spent Nuclear Fuel and Nuclear Materials had yet to be set.	
3.2	All actions from previous meetings were in hand or would be addressed through the course of the meeting.	
4	UPDATE FROM BILL HAMILTON, HEAD OF STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENT, NDA	
4.1	The Vice-Chair welcomed Bill to the meeting.	
4.2	BH apologised that NDA had pulled out from the presentation slot for the last meeting at short notice. He had asked to attend this meeting in order to provide an update on the outcome of the spending review and its implications, Strategy III, NDA Business Plan 2016-19 and Sellafield.	
4.3	Spending review – NDA was pleased with the settlement it received in the spending review. It will enable NDA to provide steady estate funding for the next five years. In order to get that level of funding NDA had agreed to make efficiency savings of £1Bn. It aimed to make these savings through requiring its contractors to either deliver more work for the same price, or in reducing costs. Contractors will need to be smarter in the way they manage work, materials and staff. If this fails to deliver the required savings then NDA will look at delaying certain programme items.	
4.4	Strategy III – NDA had been delayed in carrying out public consultation on draft Strategy III as they had been advised by DECC to wait until after the outcome of the Spending Review. Early engagement had then been carried out in autumn 2015 followed by a shorter period of formal engagement in January/February 2016. Consultation on the draft Business Plan had taken place at the same time. BH thanked NuLeAF for its comprehensive response.	
4.4.1	There had been some rearrangement of responsibilities at NDA and BH was now responsible for both stakeholder engagement and delivering NDA's socio-economic programme.	
4.4.2	NDA agrees that SSGs need to be refreshed in order to fulfil their remit. It intends to reach out to younger people and try to engage them in nuclear issues. Approaches have already been made to the Young Nuclear Network and Youth Parliaments in certain areas.	

- 4.4.3 NDA is looking to improve its engagement with local authorities and hopes to use NuLeAF, NFLA and SCCORS to help it in this. They want to ensure that the right people from local authorities are invited to attend events. Funding will be available to help with travel costs.
- 4.5 **Business Plan** – funding for sites will be shown for the next 12 months and at a higher level for the next 3 years. Key projects for the next 3 years will also be outlined.
- 4.5.1 However, the Business Plan does not give a site by site breakdown, the reason being that NDA and Cavendish Fluor Partnership are in the consolidation part of the formal competition process. CFP are reviewing the actualities on site against what they bid for and discussing the outcomes with NDA.
- 4.5.2 NDA hopes to publish new lifetime plans for each site in the next month or two. This will provide a clearer picture of the work being carried out at each. Magnox and NDA are working on an engagement plan to accompany the publication of the plans. This will include an element of national engagement but there will also be a programme of local site based engagement.
- 4.6 **Sellafield** – The change in management model for Sellafield was announced in January 2015 by Ed Davey, then Secretary of State. The current Parent Body Organisation leaves the site on 31 March 2016. A new board has been appointed and the chairman will be Tony Fountain who was for a short period CEO of NDA. He has 30-40 years of experience in managing complex sites and programmes in the oil and gas industries.
- 4.7 There have been some changes in the Communications team at NDA. Jon Phillips is leaving. Bill has taken over responsibility for delivering and reporting on socio-economics. A scoping document has been submitted to the NDA Executive which will set out a new framework for reporting on NDA's socio-economic programme. Targets will be set and outcomes shown and an annual public report published.
- Questions**
- 4.8 *Q: Will any consultation take place on the new lifetime plans?*
A: No, only if there is a need for regulatory change.
- 4.8.1 *Q: Can you tell us who will represent NDA on the new board of Sellafield?*
A: NDA can nominate two representatives to the board who will sit as non-executive directors. At present the decision has been made to only take up one place which will be taken by Rob Higgins who is NDA Business Services Director. Pete Lowyche will sit on the Owners Representative Team which will act as assurance and not be part of Sellafield Ltd.
- 4.8.2 *Q: What will happen to the socio-economic programme formerly carried out by NMP?*
A: A commitment was made when the change to the management model was announced that communities wouldn't be disadvantaged by the change. As of 1 April, Sellafield Ltd will be

	<p>responsible for delivering NDA's socio-economic programme in Western Cumbria. It will have its own strategy but funding will come from NDA.</p>	
4.8.3	<p><i>Q: Where there is the proposal to build a new nuclear power station adjacent to an existing site I feel that EDF is not properly considering using brownfield land from the decommissioning site for its new build site. This may well be because there is uncertainty about timing of the release of land which doesn't enable EDF or other developers to make an informed decision and therefore they opt for a greenfield site.</i></p> <p>A: Lifetime plans will help in this respect. They will give more assurance of dates and the likelihood of land coming forward. NDA has a team of 2 who engage with EDF on their work. Difficulties can lie with the licensing and de-licensing of sites. Work is going on about how sites can be de-licensed more quickly. A seminar on this topic is being planned for May in Manchester and NuLeAF will be invited to attend.</p>	
4.8.4	<p><i>Q: How does the response to the Strategy III consultation compare with Strategy I and II and can you provide an overview of respondents?</i></p> <p>A: I don't have the breakdown with me, but my feeling is that there was a poorer response as a result of the change in timing.</p>	
4.8.5	<p><i>Q: Prior to seeing the decommissioning paper produced by EDF I had assumed that NDA would be responsible for decommissioning their fleet of stations. Can you confirm that this will not be the case?</i></p> <p>A: It is not currently within NDA's remit, but government may change that. At present we have a role in the process, on behalf of government, in that we are responsible for ensuring EDF's decommissioning plans are robust and properly funded.</p>	
4.8.6	<p><i>Q: We found the EDF decommissioning paper to be well written and a useful document. However, we haven't been able to find a comparable one for the Magnox sites, does this exist?</i></p> <p>A: I haven't seen the EDF paper, but it is within my power to ask Magnox to produce such a document if I think it is warranted.</p> <p>Action: CD to send EDF paper to BH</p> <p><i>The Vice-Chair thanked BH for an interesting presentation. BH then left the meeting and there was discussion about what had been heard.</i></p>	CD
4.9	<p>Concerns were raised that there would be no consultation on the content of the lifetime plans as there would be issues therein which affected local communities</p>	
4.10	<p>The meeting asked NuLeAF to review the Lifetime Plans and produced a list of common themes. Consideration should also be given to whether there was sufficient material to warrant a workshop/seminar on this topic.</p>	CD/PM

5	UPDATE ON THE GEOLOGICAL DISPOSAL FACILITY (GDF) SITING PROCESS	
5.1	<p>PM introduced the paper which had been circulated prior to the meeting and covered:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • the work of the Communities Representation Working Group; • an update on the National Policy Statement for a GDF; and • the national geological screening exercise. 	
5.2	<p>PM gave a verbal update on the meeting of the CRWG which had taken place on 9 March.</p>	
5.2.1	<p>The emerging CRWG view was that the test for public support should take place as late as possible. Three methods had been proposed by DECC: consultation, objective survey and referendum. The group had indicated to DECC a general preference for referendum. No final proposal had been suggested for the timing of the right of withdrawal.</p>	
5.2.2	<p>DECC will now draw up final proposals on the CRWG work programme which will be considered by the group at a meeting on 20 April. If the Group is able to reach agreement, these proposals will then be submitted to the Minister. If they are accepted by the Minister public consultation is expected to take place in July.</p>	
5.2.3	<p>The meeting discussed the role of local authorities in the process and the importance of involving parish councils was stressed as they have closest contact to a community.</p>	
5.3	<p>The GDF National Policy Statement will now be published for public consultation in July concurrent with the CRWG work programme outcomes.</p>	
5.4	<p>NuLeAF will be working with RWM to raise the level of awareness of the GDF siting process amongst local authorities, including holding a fringe event at this year's LGA conference.</p>	
5.5	<p>The meeting noted that RWM should recognise concerns about transporting the materials for disposal around the country should the GDF be sited outside West Cumbria. Information on how this would be handled should be given prominence in any publicity material.</p>	
6	UPDATE ON DEVELOPMENTS IN NDA STRATEGY AND OPERATIONS	
6.1	<p>PM introduced the paper which had been circulated prior to the meeting. It covered:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • NDA Strategy III and other consultation responses; • Updated LLW Strategy published; • Consultation on release of nuclear sites from radioactive substance regulation; • LLW National Programme Regulatory workshop; and • Lower Activity Waste (LAW) Asbestos Stakeholder Workshop. 	

6.2	It was suggested that it may be valuable to include the perspective of an EHO in discussions on the SEPA paper on the release of nuclear sites from radioactive substances regulation.	CD
6.3	The meeting noted the content of the paper.	
7	DATE OF NEXT MEETING	
7.1	The next meeting will be held on Tuesday, 7 June 2016 at Local Government House, Smith Square, London, 11.00 – 3.00.	
8	ANY OTHER BUSINESS	
8.1	PM gave the meeting an update on funding prospects for FY2016-17. Positive indications of a good funding settlement had been received from RWM and Bill Hamilton had asked PM to arrange a meeting to discuss the NDA contribution.	
8.2	The Vice-Chair reminded those present that the next Steering Group meeting will also be the AGM and NuLeAF Officers will be up for election. He will be standing for the position of Chair and encouraged others to consider standing as Vice-Chair, or as Chair if they wished.	
8.3	CD, GEK and JG gave the meeting a brief overview of the NNLG conference which had been held the previous week.	
8.3.1	CD felt that RWM could learn from the socio-economic benefits which had been created around Hinkley Point C and use this as material to engender interest in the GDF siting process.	
8.3.2	JG highlighted GEK's presentation on the National Grid examination process, feeling there were lessons here other local authorities could profit by.	
8.3.3	It was agreed that Lee McDonagh, Director of the Office for Nuclear Development should be invited to a future NuLeAF event.	PM/CD
8.4	The Vice-Chair brought the meetings attention to the payment of £600K per annum in community benefits for a wind-power project off the coast of Cumbria, despite the installation having limited impact on the environment. He felt that there needed to be a common approach to community benefits across energy and nuclear decommissioning and that NuLeAF should contact LGA on this issue.	PM
8.5	GR advised the meeting that Magnox were no longer proposing to mill pond skips at Hinkley Point A, but they would still be brought in for storage.	
9	EXTRAORDINARY GENERAL MEETING	
9.1	PM presented the draft Service Plan for 2016-17 which had been circulated prior to the meeting.	
9.2	The Vice-Chair took the meeting through the document one section at a time. Comments made were:	

9.2.1	Although at present the Service Plan does not show the breakdown of time apportioned to work NDA, RWM and Local Authorities, PM assured the meeting that NuLeAF would not permit workload for RWM to have negative impact on work for member authorities.	
9.2.2	Objective 4 – There is a task for NuLeAF in drawing together the common threads in the soon to be published lifetime plans.	PM
9.2.3	Objective 13 – it is important to ensure that RWM understands how local government works and how to interact with it.	
9.2.4	Objective 15 – include DCLG as a prospective partner regarding work on waste planning.	PM
9.2.5	Any reference to new build development must include other developers besides EDF.	PM
9.2.6	Objective 29 – needs to reflect proactive management of the financial situation and sourcing of funding.	PM
10	PRESENTATION BY SEAN MORRIS, SECRETARY, NUCLEAR FREE LOCAL AUTHORITIES (NFLA)	
10.1	The Vice-Chair thanked SM for stepping in at the last minute. He highlighted Manchester City Council's involvement in the founding of NuLeAF and subsequent provision of the secretariat before it moved to Suffolk County Council. One of NuLeAF's strengths is that it seeks to represent a consensus view from local authorities with a wide spectrum of views on nuclear issues, but who all recognise the need to deal with the nuclear decommissioning legacy.	
10.2	SM gave an overview of how NFLA was founded and its engagement on radioactive waste management. Its membership covers all four member states of the UK and is drawn from 12 political parties. He went on to speak about their activities in briefing their members, working with government and highlighting issues of concern and offering the opportunity for discussion and learning.	
10.3	The presentation is available on NuLeAF's website. The meeting closed at 14.20.	

ACTION LIST

Steering Group, 10 March, 2016			
2.1/2	Amend Minutes of meeting on 28 Jan 2016 and post on NuLeAF website	CD	Done
4.8.6	Send EDF Decommissioning paper to BH	CD	Done 11.3.16
6.2	Invite an EHO to attend RWPG on 12 April	CD	Done. Unfortunately Clive Pink was unable to attend, but commented on GRR consultation paper.
8.3.3	Invite Lee McDonagh to attend SG on 7 June	PM	It was felt that programme on 7 th June already full and we would not be able to give Lee McDonagh enough time. An invitation will be extended to a future meeting.
8.4	Contact LGA to discuss consistent approach to community benefits from energy projects	PM	Eamon Lally, LGA lead on energy, will be attending the 7 th June SG. This issue will be raised with him then and then followed up if appropriate.
9.2	Amend Service Plan to reflect comments	PM	Done
Steering Group, 28 January, 2016			
5.2	Seek update on work by SNF&NM TOG	PM	Done
5.3.4	Raise issue of SSGs and engagement with local authorities with John Clarke at meeting on 7 June	PM/RS	In hand
5.4.7	Write to DECC re NDA socio-economic engagement remit	PM	In hand
Steering Group, 15 October, 2015			
4.5	Consider holding NuLeAF SG meeting in Wales to facilitate meetings with Welsh local authorities around GDF	PM/CD	In hand.
5.4	Ascertain if it is still UK policy for any new station build to be accompanied by a station decommissioning	PM	No clarity as yet.
6.4	Write to tier 2/3 contractors around Sellafield site for funding contribution	PM	Awaiting clarity on core funding for 2016/17 from NDA/RWM.
Steering Group, 23 July, 2015			
7.6	Contact Welsh Government re: funding support	PM	In-hand