

Meeting:	NuLeAF Steering Group, 6 th December 2017
Agenda Item:	5
Subject:	Proposal for annual meeting with Magnox
Author:	Philip Matthews
Purpose:	To seek member views on a proposal from Magnox for an annual engagement meeting with NuLeAF.

Introduction

NuLeAF has been in dialogue with Magnox with the aim of addressing member concerns and enhancing engagement with local authorities.

This dialogue led to a proposal from Magnox for a way forward, based around an annual meeting between senior staff at Magnox and NuLeAF members. This was approved by the NuLeAF Steering Group in September 2017 and a commitment made to provide a more detailed proposal to NuLeAF members as to the format and aims of the annual meeting.

Members are invited to review the proposal made in this paper, agree whether the meeting should be held as part of a Steering Group or Radioactive Waste Planning Group meeting, and offer comment on the suggested format.

Recommendations:

That NuLeAF members:

1. Agree whether this meeting should be held as part of a Steering Group, or Radioactive Waste Planning Group (RWPG) meeting.

1. Context

Over recent years NuLeAF has regularly raised with Magnox the varying experiences of NuLeAF members in engaging at a local level.

Some local authorities have called for more effective interaction between Magnox and host planning authorities in relation to planning proposals (prior notifications, planning applications and variations) for nuclear licensed sites as they are cleaned up and prepared for next planned use.

More widely, some NuLeAF members have felt there is a lack of clarity as to how individual planning applications fit with Magnox's overall Lifetime Plan for each site or how they are linked to national strategy.

Other concerns include:

- A sense that decisions around the movement of ILW/FED and the transport mode used are not clearly explained and justified to all relevant councils
- A view that Site Stakeholder Groups (SSGs), while an important forum for engagement, are not the appropriate place for more technical discussions around planning matters

NuLeAF has been in discussion with Magnox over ways in which engagement can be improved, and in response Magnox has proposed that an annual meeting is held, involving NuLeAF members and Magnox staff. While attendance from Magnox will vary depending on availability and the particular issues under discussion, Magnox has indicated that attendees will be from a senior level and might include the Business Services Director, Waste Director, Waste Strategy and Permissioning Manager and the Head of Communications.

This meeting would be similar in purpose and approach to the annual meeting held between NuLeAF's Radioactive Waste Planning Group (RWPG), LLWR Ltd and the supply chain. That meeting provides early engagement on plans for low level waste management and enable planners to discuss with the industry the strategic framework and its impact on specific sites.

2. Proposal for annual meeting with Magnox

It is proposed that an annual meeting would be held as part of a Steering Group or RWPG meeting, depending on NuLeAF member preferences, and would run for around 2 hours.

The first annual meeting would be held in spring/summer 2018. The exact format is flexible but is likely to be based on 'round table' discussions around a pre-agreed agenda. There could also be scope for presentations on specific areas of interest – for example a presentation by NuLeAF to Magnox on the current framework for land use and waste planning to build Magnox understanding of how they can effectively engage in the planning cycle; or an overview from Magnox on their strategy and plans for individual sites.

This initial meeting would be reviewed through seeking feedback from NuLeAF members and by discussion with Magnox, and a decision taken on the approach and format of future meetings. Given that the current Magnox contract ends in September 2019, it will be important to ensure continuity and the continuation of the meetings post-2019.

Members are invited to offer their views on the proposal and the specific recommendations in this paper.