

**Note of the NuLeAF meeting held at NDA Stakeholder Summit,
Coleg Menai, Llangefni, Anglesey, Tuesday, 9th July 2019.**

Present:

Cllr Matthew Riddle	South Gloucestershire Council (Chair)
Cllr Carwyn Jones	Anglesey County Council
Cllr David Southward	Cumbria County Council
Cllr David Wimble	Folkestone & Hythe District Council
Cllr Michael Green	Lancashire County Council
Cllr David Blackburn	Leeds City Council
Cllr Chris Morgan	Somerset West & Taunton Council
Cllr Richard Smith	Suffolk County Council
Richard Griffin	Allerdale Borough Council
Liz Davies	Anglesey County Council
Rob Ward	Copeland Borough Council
Angela Jones	Cumbria County Council
Lisa Chandler	East Suffolk County Council
Terry Burns	Essex County Council
Nia Carys Boden	Gwynedd County Council
Sean Morris	Manchester City Council
Mary Hudson	Oxfordshire County Council
Doug Bamsey	Sedgemoor District Council
Philip Matthews	NuLeAF
Catherine Draper	NuLeAF
Cllr Jim McEleny	SCCORS
David Peattie	NDA
John McNamara	NDA
Jonathan Jenkin	NDA
Ann McCall	RWM
Mike Brophy	RWM
Simon Napper	RWM

1. The Chair welcomed everyone to the meeting and thanked David Peattie and Ann McCall for coming along to speak.
2. Phil Matthews gave a brief overview of NuLeAF's work with NDA and RWM highlighting the opportunities engagement with NuLeAF members gave.
3. David Peattie, CEO of NDA, gave a review of NDA's work over the past year, a brief lookahead and commented on their social obligations. Key points were:

3.1 *Review:*

- NDA had hit all its financial targets for FY2018-19. Whilst it was the largest spender in BEIS NDA had also earned £1Bn for the taxpayer.
- It is the world leader in nuclear transportation with a fleet of 4 ships and 200 trains. The rail movements are not confined to nuclear shipments, but it also has commercial contracts such as the one with Tesco for moving its non-food items.
- NDA receives an annual grant of £2bn from Treasury, and the case is being made for that level to be maintained in the current spending review. NDA's revenue generation will decrease in the coming years with the closure of the Thorp reprocessing plant last year, and the forthcoming closure of the Magnox reprocessing plant in 2020. There is a £300 million gap forecast and that will be difficult to close.
- Other highlights include the move of Bradwell A station in to Care and Maintenance phase, the reduction in height of the chimneys at Sellafield, demolition of the Pile 1 chimney has begun and the self-climbing platform used in the work on the chimneys at Sellafield has been transferred to Dounreay.
- NDA has published a mission progress report for the first time which endeavours to explain where the funding is spent.

3.2 *Looking ahead:* The brand One NDA has created. Its purpose is to:

1. Deliver the NDA mission safely and securely, being more efficient, transparent and creative in how it works.
2. Put pride back into the workforce and make the organisation a good place to work where people can have a good work/life balance.
3. Be trusted to do more in the UK and in the global market. The AGR fleet will come to NDA for decommissioning, as will the MoD retired nuclear powered submarines. Work continues supporting clean-up at Fukushima. A memorandum of understanding was recently signed with the Ukraine to help with the clean-up of Chernobyl. A further £10 million spend has been agreed to help facilitate this expanded work programme.

Magnox will be moving 'in-house' from September 1st 2019, but the two remaining PBO contracts, at LLWR and Dounreay will continue for the time being. However, this will not prevent standardisation across the NDA estate being introduced.

3.3 *Socio-economic obligation:* NDA has an obligation to parliament to deliver on its socio-economic obligations. It is important that NDA is seen as a good neighbour, supporting local jobs, infrastructure and education.

3.4 The meeting opened up to Q&A.

Q: What is your commitment to encouraging young people into the workforce?

A: When the announcement was made about the postponement of the development of Wylfa Newydd, we immediately committed to taking their apprentices. However, we are under pressure from the regulator to deal with the highest

hazards first and this impacts on our ability to direct spending into recruitment and training.

Q: Bradwell has gone into Care & Maintenance, but Trawsfynydd was also an early pilot project.

A: We hope to make progress on Trawsfynydd, and also at Dungeness. However, the funding available will be restricted because of dealing with high hazards at Sellafield.

Q: What assurances can you give about the potential for attack from drones.

A: NDA is talking to MoD about drone defence. At Sellafield we are aware of where are our own drones are located, so any intruder has a net fired at it.

Q: New build is creating a new legacy of waste. How can we involve young people in what's going on?

A: NDA apprentice and graduate programmes are one of the best in the country and they have a 50/50 gender balance. Sellafield has a 'shadow board' and a group of young people in their 20s receive the papers which go to the board – they are coming up with some good ideas. I'd like to see that example rolled out elsewhere. We are aware that we have an ageing workforce demographic and we need to bring in the next generation.

Q: We were disappointed when the early indications that Cavendish Fluor Partnership would be more open and transparent did not come to fruition. There are benefits to be had from early engagement – how will the new Magnox model differ?

A: There is an opportunity for change here. I would encourage you to contact Gwen Parry Jones, the new CEO of Magnox Ltd direct if you have concerns.

Q: We are currently in a politically unstable period, and either a soft or hard Brexit is likely to affect your spending capabilities. What impact could this have on your work programme?

A: We would work with all the sites to rank projects and then prioritise spending across the NDA estate, working collaboratively to maintain morale. ONR is supporting our funding bid.

The Chair thanked Mr Peattie for his presentation and handed over to Ann McCall.

4. Ann McCall gave a brief overview of her involvement with the nuclear industry to date.

4.1 At last year's meeting, the GDF siting process had not yet been launched. NuLeAF members had provided input to how the siting process should look through participation in workshops in 2018.

4.2 The launch took place in December 2018 (England) and January 2019 (Wales). A suite of documents was published which sets out how RWM will

engage with communities, and how communities are at the heart of the GDF siting process.

- 4.3 The current RWM engagement programme has three strands:
1. Raising national awareness of the GDF siting process in order to ensure any community which would like to participate has the opportunity to do so.
 2. Engaging with communities by providing more information to individual enquirers on what it would mean for them to participate in the process.
 3. Continuing work on the site evaluation process. A consultation was carried out earlier this year and the results will be published in due course.
- 4.4 The supporting National Policy Statement was published the previous week, and this year RWM want to carry on the conversation with NuLeAF and its members.

The meeting opened up to questions:

Q: How many host communities have expressed an interest in participating in the GDF siting process so far, and if a community does not come forward with a suitable site, would the government force a GDF on an unwilling community?

A: At this stage the process is more about communities asking for further information rather than making an expression of interest. Our hope is that UK government will permit us to run this engagement phase for a number of years and there are a lot of areas which would be suitable to host the GDF.

Q: There was a lot of misunderstanding in Wales and Northern Ireland about the geological information you made available. Has that impacted on the way you are engaging now?

A: It is important that we get information out and we did so in a spirit of openness and transparency. There is no government at present in Northern Ireland and so no policy of geological disposal. We aimed to take the same approach in Wales as in England, we listened to what the local community asked and acted accordingly. The lesson is that we cannot do enough in raising awareness, and we should not assume that people know what the GDF siting process is about.

The Chair thanked Ms McCall for her presentation and the meeting closed.