

Meeting: Nuleaf Steering Group
Date: 8th December 2021
Item: 8
Subject: Proposed new work areas
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Introduction

At the request of our members, Nuleaf has been considering whether changes to the wider policy context for nuclear decommissioning require any changes to the organisation's scope and remit.

At the September Steering Group meeting it was agreed that the organisation's remit should remain broadly unchanged, with a focus on decommissioning and legacy waste management, but with engagement in new nuclear issues where it has implications for legacy sites. It was also agreed that Nuleaf:

Extends its work to include occasional discussion around (a) regional energy and net zero plans; and (b) nuclear Emergency Planning.

This paper proposes how this action should be taken forward.

Recommendation:

1. That Nuleaf engages in (a) nuclear Emergency Planning and (b) regional energy and net zero plans in line with the proposals in this paper.
2. That a change to the constitution is tabled at the March 2022 Steering Group meeting to underpin the proposed extension of remit of the organisation. A possible amendment is proposed in this paper.

1. Proposal

It is proposed to engage in each of the new work areas as follows:

i. Emergency Planning

An annual meeting on nuclear Emergency Planning will be held online. This will be open to both elected members and officers. Its purpose will be to review existing emergency planning arrangements, identify upcoming developments that are

relevant, and facilitate a dialogue between Nuleaf members and those engaged in Emergency Planning, to enhance mutual understanding.

Along with Nuleaf members, an invitation to participate in the meeting will be extended to:

- Emergency Planning Officers from Nuleaf member authorities.
- Representatives of the Local Authority Nuclear Working Group, which represents local authorities on nuclear emergency planning.
- The Office for Nuclear Regulation (ONR).
- Other bodies as appropriate. These may include BEIS, the NDA Group, the Health and Safety Executive (HSE) and the Ministry of Defence (MoD).

The meeting will be Chaired by Nuleaf's Chair, Vice Chair or Executive Director, as appropriate.

In addition, relevant developments in nuclear Emergency Planning will be reported at Steering Group and RWPG meetings, and via social media, as appropriate.

ii. Regional Energy and Net Zero Plans

Meetings on regional energy and net zero plans will be held online on an ad hoc basis, as and when members wish or when a particular issue has been identified as meriting discussion. Meetings will be open to both elected members and officers. The purpose of the meetings will be to explore the connections between nuclear decommissioning and wider action on net zero carbon energy and related infrastructure provision at a local and regional level.

Along with Nuleaf members, an invitation to participate in the meetings will be extended to others as appropriate. This may include:

- BEIS and the Welsh Government
- NDA Group
- Representatives of regional energy and infrastructure bodies such as Britain's Energy Coast, North Wales Growth Deal, NW Nuclear Arc and Local Energy East.
- Local Enterprise Partnerships (LEPs) and universities/colleges.

The meeting will be Chaired by Nuleaf's Chair, Vice Chair or Executive Director, as appropriate.

In addition, relevant developments in energy infrastructure planning will be reported on at Steering Group and RWPG meetings, and via social media, as appropriate.

2. Amendment of the Nuleaf constitution

Nuleaf has engaged in a peripheral way in discussion of nuclear Emergency Planning, along with related areas such as nuclear safety, for many years.

Engagement in regional energy and net zero plans is a new area. Nuleaf discussion of these issues will be limited, and the focus will be very much on how such wider plans connect to and support the decommissioning of nuclear sites. However, it was proposed at the September Steering Group that it may be useful to clarify Nuleaf's involvement in such issues through an amendment of the constitution.

Nuleaf's current constitution can be viewed here¹. It is suggested that an appropriate change might be to amend Nuleaf's Remit as follows (new text in bold):

*3. Nuleaf's remit encompasses all aspects of the management of the UK's nuclear legacy. This includes the implications for legacy **nuclear sites and waste** management of any developments that are likely to impact on that management, **including proposals for new energy generation, transmission and storage infrastructure.***

A formal proposal on the amendment of the Nuleaf Constitution will be tabled at the Nuleaf AGM, being held on the same day as the March 2022 Steering Group meeting.

¹ <https://www.nuleaf.org.uk/about/constitution/>