

Forum.



Hinkley Point A and B – now both in decommissioning

Welcome

Here is a summary of what has been hitting the headlines, recently issued reports, consultations in progress, forthcoming meeting dates and other items of note.

Dates for the diary

Nuleaf will hold a meeting on **Local Government and nuclear in Wales** on the 19th October in Portmerion, Gwynedd. The event will also include a site visit to the former Trawsfydd power station to see progress with decommissioning.

The next **Steering Group** meeting will be held online on the 9th December from 10am until 1pm.

Our next **Radioactive Waste Planning Group** meeting will take place on Wednesday the 13th January 2027 from 10am until 12.30pm.

Please note these dates. If you want to discuss then contact Chloe Atkinson Chloe.Atkinson@nuleaf.org.uk.



Nuleaf's Chair Cllr Joseph Ghayouba joins IAEA meeting on stakeholder engagement

Nuleaf updates

Nuleaf's Chair Cllr. Joseph Ghayouba attended and spoke at an **International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) Technical Meeting on engagement in decommissioning** in Vienna, held on the 20th to 24th July; while Executive Director Philip Matthews joined the event online. The focal point of the meeting was the review and updating of an IAEA document: **Stakeholder Engagement in Decommissioning: Pathways to Nuclear Site Repurposing** that outlines the key factors for successful engagement.

The NDA hosted a dedicated meeting for Nuleaf members on the 20th August, to explore their **Group Action Plan (GAP): Consolidation of waste treatment and storage**. The GAP aims to establish clear guidance and principles for waste storage consolidation and waste treatment capabilities, and aligns with the NDA's long-term mission to reduce high-hazard risks and modernise storage arrangements for Intermediate Level Waste (ILW).

Particular drivers for the development of the GAP are the recent Fingleton Review on the regulatory landscape, and the growth of new nuclear developments. The NDA recognises the important role of local planning authorities around waste treatment and storage and the need to address wider economic, social and environmental concerns. The meeting was well attended and prompted a lively discussion, the main points of which will be shared.

Nuleaf is hosting a **Welsh member meeting** at Portmerion in Gwynedd on **Monday the 19th October**. The meeting will hear from the Welsh Government and Gwynedd and Anglesey Councils; with other presenter covering the North Wales Growth Deal, the Wales Nuclear Forum, the NW Nuclear Arc and the work of M-Sparc. The event will include a site visit to Trawsfynydd, and invitations have been sent to Welsh local authorities and other partners.

Hinkley Point B transfers to NDA

An important milestone was reached on the 1st October, when the **Hinkley Point B** site transferred from EDF to the NDA, following defueling.

The site was the first British designed Advanced Gas-cooled Reactor and began to export electricity to the national grid in 1976. When it ceased generation in 2022, it had produced enough zero-carbon electricity to power every home in the South West of England for 33 years. Around 250 staff will continue to be employed at the site as Nuclear Restoration services begins its decommissioning mission.

Energy Minister Michael Shanks commented *'Today's transfer marks an important new chapter for Hinkley Point B, which has played a key role in reducing our reliance on fossil fuels.....As we deliver the biggest expansion of nuclear power in a generation, we are backing both the skilled jobs needed to decommission our historic sites safely and the 42,000 jobs helping build the next generation of clean, homegrown nuclear power.'*

NDA news

The Nuclear Decommissioning Authority (NDA) has begun a refresh of its **Social Impact and Communities Strategy**. The Strategy was last updated in 2024 and Andy Harper of NDA joined Nuleaf's October Steering Group meeting to present and discuss the update with Nuleaf members. A range of issues were raised in discussion, and Nuleaf plans to engage further with NDA over the document review period.

Euan Hutton, the CEO of Sellafield Ltd. has announced that he intends to stand down in summer 2027 to pursue a non-executive career and spend more time with his family. Euan stated *'I first walked through the gates of Sellafield in October 1991 and I could not have dreamed of the opportunities that this special place has given to me. To lead Sellafield has been the greatest honour and privilege of my professional life.'*

Investment of almost £10million to improve **Egremont** in Cumberland has been announced. Egremont Town Team and Cumberland Council had already secured £3 million from the Borderlands Inclusive Growth Fund. Now, Sellafield Ltd, the Nuclear Decommissioning Authority (NDA), the Decommissioning and Nuclear Waste Partnership (DNWP) and Copeland Community Fund have provided more support. This brings the total investment to £9.8 million.



ONR Strategy published

The Office for Nuclear Regulation (ONR) has published its new **Strategy**. This sets out how it will regulate an expanding and diverse UK nuclear sector over the coming decades. The strategy introduces a mission of 'Ensuring safe nuclear for a secure and sustainable future' and a vision to be 'a modern, agile and productive regulator enabling innovation and growth'.

News from across the nuclear sector

The **Nuclear Industry Association (NIA)** has published its latest update on UK civil nuclear jobs. This shows that employment in the sector has exceeded 100,000 for the first time, an increase of 67% since 2021. The primary driver for the increase has been new nuclear projects at Hinkley C and Sizewell C, as well as around the planned SMR development on Anglesey. The report notes that 86% of nuclear jobs are outside London and the South-East.

Rolls Royce SMR has stated that around £1.4Bn of supply chain investment will be generated in relation to the **Gwyndod** SMR development on Anglesey. It hopes that around 70% will be spent within the UK and that opportunities for companies based in Anglesey can be maximised. The island will host a joint supplier conference with **Rolls-Royce SMR** and **Great British Energy-Nuclear** on October 22 and 23 to provide more information to potential suppliers.

Cambridge Atomworks has signed a letter of intent with Chiltern Vital Berkeley (CVB), the owner of the Gloucestershire Science and Technology Park, to build a prototype of its Odin microreactor. The Park comprises a parcel of land which formed part of the former **Berkeley** nuclear power station and which has been earmarked for nuclear and clean energy research and development. The plan is to have an operational prototype by 2030.

Nuleaf submitted a response to the UK Government consultation on a new **Draft National Policy Statement for fusion energy generation (EN-8)**¹. The UK also hosted a **Global Fusion Policy Summit** in London on the 14th September. At this, the UK and USA signed two new agreements intended to bring fusion power closer to reality and to create 10,000 jobs in the sector by 2030.

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