

Welcome to Issue 50 of the e-bulletin, which reports on topics and discussions at the NuLeAF Steering Group meeting and AGM held in London on 6<sup>th</sup> June 2018 and other items:

- The Geological Disposal Facility siting process;
- NDA Stakeholder Summit 2018;
- Outcomes from NuLeAF Steering Group meeting and AGM on 6<sup>th</sup> June 2018;
- GDF Watch;
- UK Government response to PAC Report on Magnox Parent Body Organisation competition
- Items of interest from around the sites;
- Dates for the diary; and
- Joining NuLeAF and participating in our work.

## The Geological Disposal Facility (GDF) siting process

NuLeAF has submitted **written evidence** to the BEIS Commons Select Committee on the National Policy Statement. You can find the response on the [NuLeAF website](#), along with NuLeAF's [response to the NPS consultation](#) which ran earlier in the year.

NuLeAF members are engaging with staff at BEIS on the **Working with Communities policy**, in order to help the Government understand fully the concerns around the draft policy which were raised by NuLeAF and individual member authorities in response to the recent consultation. Chief among these are the lack of clarity over (a) whether or not there is a local government veto at any stage of the siting process (b) how 'the community' is defined, and (c) the socio-economic benefits (and dis-benefits) engendered by hosting a GDF. You can find NuLeAF's response to that consultation on our [website](#).

NuLeAF, along with RWM, will be at the [Welsh Local Government Association Conference](#) in Llandudno on the 28<sup>th</sup> June and the [Local Government Association \(LGA\) Conference](#) which is being held in Birmingham on 3<sup>rd</sup> to 5<sup>th</sup> July.

NuLeAF will continue to work to inform and advise both central and local government on the pertinent issues around this complex process. **Any local authority wishing to have informal discussions or seeking further information should contact the Executive Director, Philip Matthews on 07949 209126 or [philip.matthews@nuleaf.org.uk](mailto:philip.matthews@nuleaf.org.uk).**

## NDA Stakeholder Summit 2018

Following the success of last year's **Stakeholder Summit** in West Cumbria, NDA will be holding another event on 10<sup>th</sup> and 11<sup>th</sup> July at South Gloucestershire and Stroud College (Berkeley Campus). You can find details of the programme on the dedicated website [www.ndastakeholdersummit.co.uk](http://www.ndastakeholdersummit.co.uk), where you can also register to attend.

NuLeAF will be holding a meeting at 9.00 on the morning of 10<sup>th</sup> July, where there will be an opportunity to question David Peattie, CEO of NDA, and to hear from Marie Berggren, from Östhammar in Sweden on their experience of the GDF siting process.

NuLeAF will also be hosting a dinner with the European delegation attending from the Group of Municipal Authorities with Nuclear Facilities (GMF), an organisation NuLeAF joined last year. NDA kindly invited them to attend the Stakeholder Summit and at present, over 50 of their members have registered.

NuLeAF would encourage its members to attend so that they can hear about the European experience of nuclear decommissioning. Anyone wishing to do so should, in the first instance, contact the secretariat at [catherine.draper@nuleaf.org.uk](mailto:catherine.draper@nuleaf.org.uk).

## Outcomes from NuLeAF Steering Group, 6<sup>th</sup> June 2018

Following a discussion of NuLeAF **Policy Statement 3** on the disposal of Higher Activity Wastes which was first published in 2007, the NuLeAF Steering Group agreed that the policy should be revised and updated to reflect the current situation and highlight any new issues of concern. It further directed the secretariat to produce two information papers on the retrievability of the waste disposed into a GDF, and also on the impacts of not finding a host community. These papers are to be prepared by the end of 2018.

NuLeAF members are looking to engage with NDA over the way it, and its SLCs, **communicate with local authorities**, particularly in their role as statutory consultees. Members highlighted the need for NDA and SLCs to recognise the importance of direct and effective contact with planning and economic development functions of local government, and that this should be undertaken in addition to contact with Site Stakeholder Groups. This is one of the issues NuLeAF will be looking to NDA to address at the Stakeholder Summit.

## Outcomes from NuLeAF AGM 2018

NuLeAF's AGM took place on 6<sup>th</sup> June at the Chartered Institute of Arbitrators in Bloomsbury Square, London. Cllr Brendan Sweeney (Barrow-in-Furness Borough Council) was elected as Chair for a third term, and Cllr David Monk (Folkestone and Hythe District Council) was elected for a third term as Vice-Chair. Cllr Eddy Newman (Manchester City Council) was elected as Vice-Chair (NFLA). This will be his first term in post, and NuLeAF looks forward to his contribution to discussions.

Discussions took place with Eamon Lally, Principal Policy Advisor at the **Local Government Association** (LGA) on ways in which LGA can support NuLeAF in its work, and how NuLeAF can use its expertise in the field of radioactive waste management to support LGA members. LGA has recently had direct enquiries from member authorities about the GDF siting process, and it recognises that NuLeAF is the appropriate body to provide support to local government on this subject.

## GDF Watch

GDF Watch is a not-for-profit citizen organisation which keeps a watching brief on all things related to the GDF siting process. It produces a weekly newsletter to which you can subscribe, and the [website](#) has a range of articles and information.

## Government response to PAC Report on Magnox PBO Competition.

UK Government has published its response to the Report by the Public Accounts Committee on the Magnox Parent Body Organisation competition, which saw NDA being legally challenged on the outcome of the tendering process by Energy Solutions, and resulted in a bill of over £100 million to the UK taxpayer. The UK Government agrees with the PAC's recommendations and sets out actions and target dates to comply with their proposals. The response forms pages 11- 14 of Treasury Minutes and you can find the document on the [www.parliament.uk](http://www.parliament.uk) website.

## Around the sites

**Magnox** has published '[Achievements 2017/18](#)' which, as they say, "does what it says on the tin" and highlights the achievements and milestones over the previous year in the decommissioning of Magnox sites.

**NDA** has been outlining the economic and environmental impacts of its decommissioning programme to the Scottish Parliament. The decommissioning programme in Scotland is worth £280 million per annum, with just under 10% of this spend going to Scottish Small and Medium sized Enterprises (SMEs). You can read more about the socio-economic impacts of the decommissioning programme on the [NDA website](#).

Did you know that the **Low Level Waste Repository (LLWR) Ltd** publishes a regular [Waste Metric Dashboard](#)? This infographic shows data on the diversion of wastes from direct disposal and includes information on such things as the percentage of road versus rail transportations and the environmental benefits created by diverting waste from disposal.

## Dates for the Diary

Here is the NuLeAF meeting timetable for 2018. Please note these dates in your diary for future reference. Meetings of the Steering Group are open to elected members and officers from NuLeAF member authorities. The Radioactive Waste Planning Group is officer only.

DATE	MEETING	VENUE
8 <sup>th</sup> August, 2018	Radioactive Waste Planning Group	18 Smith Square, London
12 <sup>th</sup> September, 2018	Steering Group	Leaf, 113-115 Portland Street, Manchester
24 <sup>th</sup> October, 2018	Radioactive Waste Planning Group	Coram Campus, Brunswick Square, London
5 <sup>th</sup> December, 2018	Steering Group	Coram Campus, Brunswick Square, London

## Joining NuLeAF and participating in our work

Nuclear waste and legacy issues are major concerns for local authorities across the country. Critical issues include management of Low and Very Low Level Waste to landfill, changes to planning guidance, considerations on the siting of a Geological Disposal Facility, the need to maximise community benefits from nuclear legacy operations and the impacts of the decommissioning of current and future nuclear power stations.

NuLeAF continues to be an effective voice for local authorities on all these issues. We welcome new member authorities and the active participation of Elected Members and officers in our Steering Group and in the officer Radioactive Waste Planning Group. If your authority would like to join NuLeAF, if you would like to participate in the work of the organisation, or find out more, then please contact Catherine Draper at the address below.

## NuLeAF on LinkedIn and Twitter

NuLeAF has a group on [LinkedIn.com](https://www.linkedin.com/company/nuleaf). We hope that members will use this as a forum to discuss issues and seek advice with other members. We also post regular items of news. Our Twitter account alerts members to consultations, news, and other items of interest as they happen. Our Twitter handle is [@nuleaforguk](https://twitter.com/nuleaforguk).

## Contact point

All member authorities are asked to ensure that NuLeAF is kept informed of any changes to officer or councillor contacts. It is important that these are kept up-to-date, so that the right people receive e-bulletins, invitations to NuLeAF meetings and other information.

The NuLeAF Secretariat can be contacted at *T:* 01473 264833 *W:* [www.nuleaf.org.uk](http://www.nuleaf.org.uk)

*E:* [catherine.draper@nuleaf.org.uk](mailto:catherine.draper@nuleaf.org.uk)