

DUNGENESS A SITE AND B POWER STATION

DUNGENESS SITE STAKEHOLDER GROUP MEETING

The Assembly Rooms – New Romney

Thursday 22 June 2017

10:00 for 10:30

ATTENDANCE:

Ms A Bamping	-	Natural England
Mrs L Barton	-	Lydd Airport Action Group
Mrs R Cavanagh	-	Dungeness B Power Station
Cllr P Coe	-	New Romney Town Council
Mr I Cuthbert	-	Dungeness A Site
Mr P Fahey	-	EA (Dun A)
Mr A Feacey	-	Kent County Council
Mr S Fox	-	Magnox Communications
Cllr D Godfrey	-	Shepway District Council
Mr J Jenkin	-	NDA
Cllr T Hills	-	Kent County Council
Cllr D Hughes	-	Lydd Town Council
Mr D Illsley	-	Shepway District Council
Cllr L Laws	-	Shepway District Council
Cllr A Rodriguez	-	New Romney Town Council
Mr J Royal-Simpson	-	Affinity Water
Col G Smythe	-	Independent Chairman
Mr A Stone	-	EA (Dun B)
Mr I Stewart	-	Dungeness B Power Station
Ms S Tanner	-	Minute Taker
Cllr R Wilkins	-	Shepway District Council
Ms K Wilson	-	Romney Marsh Partnership

I INTRODUCTION

3582 Col. Smythe welcomed the attendees to the Site Stakeholder Group meeting (SSG). He advised a great deal has taken place since the last meeting and wanted to keep the introduction short. Col. Smythe introduced Shannon Tanner as the new minute taker.

II APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

3583 The following apologies were received:

Mr D Barley	-	Civil Nuclear Constabulary
Mrs M Barnes	-	EDF
Mr J Beckwith	-	Magnox
Mr B Botley	-	Kent against a Radioactive Environment
Cllr M Burgess	-	Ashford Borough Council
Mr R Cook	-	ONR (Dun A)
Ms F Hunter	-	ONR (Dun B)

Cllr D Lawton	-	New Romney Town Council
Mr L Ollier	-	EDF
Ms M Stuart	-	Kent against a Radioactive Environment
Mrs K Thomas	-	Dungeness A Site
Mr P Wilkinson	-	Dungeness A Site

III TO APPROVE THE MINUTES

3584 The minutes of the 23rd SSG meeting held on Thursday, 12 January 2017 were agreed as an accurate record. Col. Smythe highlighted an outstanding action – Food Standards Agency is due to attend as soon as someone is available.

IV CORRESPONDENCE

3585 A list of correspondence since the last meeting has been sent to the SSG, Col. Smythe highlighted the update from the NDA and there will be a session next month with the SSG chairs.

V MATTERS ARISING – GEORGE SMYTHE

3586 **Action: The EA has suggested that Public Health England (PHE) present its information at a future SSG meeting to explain the results and conclusions of surveys that it has carried out.** – Col Smythe highlighted this as an outstanding action.

VI COMMENTS OR QUESTIONS REGARDING DUNGENESS A's CLOSURE DIRECTORS REPORT – IAN CUTHBERT, DEPUTY CLOSURE DIRECTOR

3587 Ian Cuthbert has attended on behalf of Dungeness A, with Paul Wilkinson sending his apologies. Ian has outlined the contents of the report covering:

- There have been 265 dives into the ponds at Dungeness A, the divers have now departed the site. All work is on schedule and draining of the ponds is expected to be completed by May 2018
- Asbestos removal is going well and due to complete in 2019.
- NDA will be completing surveys to ensure all buildings are safe.
- There is currently no funding for Boiler Annexes which is a 3 year programme from 2018 to 2021 and there will be an update as soon as there is more information.

3588 Ian welcomed questions from the SSG

Q: Is this part of the current plan?

A: This is part of the current plan to ensure safety.

Ian informed the SSG that they are still working towards a closure date of August 2025, Ian apologised for not being able to stay for the whole meeting.

VII COMMENTS OR QUESTIONS REGARDING DUNGENESS B's STATION DIRECTORS REPORTS – IAN STEWART STATION DIRECTOR

3689 Ian Stewart apologised for not circulating a formal report, but would be able to give a verbal update to, he ran through the following information:

- Dungeness are currently working successfully towards their half year plan.
- B site is currently having their statutory outage which is 80 days for inspections and overhaul.
- B site is looking to continue running through to April 2028
- B site has had a safe start to the year, with only one accident being reported (slippage in shower) Ian is happy with the Health and Safety of the site.
- ONR have completed their annual Health and Safety Assessment and they are working on the same page.

3590 Ian reported to the SSG that there was a security exercise, which was handled efficiently, this has demonstrated that the security is currently where it should be. Ian has confirmed that the outage has now begun and they currently have over 1200 people on site, there has been a small loss to generation due to a by-ring failure which is something that has not been seen before but this is being built back up.

3591 Ian has confirmed that Dungeness B continues to be a big part of the community, there have been over 3,500 visitors who have received tours round the station and enable their team to show what they do as part of their everyday activities. Ian informed the SSG that they have recruited six new apprentices, who have begun their initial 2 years training and are currently based in Portsmouth. There is a need for more Ops Tech staff, and there was a recent open evening. They are struggling to find the right people locally for the roles. Ian summed up his report as Dungeness B operating in a steady safe manner.

3592 Ian welcomed questions from the SSG

Q: Now you have started the outage is it a general outage or are you completing specialised tasks?

A: This is a general outage and more specialised tasks will be completed for the next outage including Boiler Work and Protecting the Reactor.

Q: Good news locally for the need of Ops Staff, but do we have the skillset locally to fulfil?

A: I do not know, we will be able to grow the skills with the right people. We need to hit the ground running and I am currently unsure of what is available locally.

Q: Will there be work on the Sea Defences over winter 2017 – 2018?

A: Yes, we have been able to complete a lot of work over the last few mild winters and this will continue as safety is paramount.

Q: What about the lanterns?

A: These are being replaced during this outage, with survey work for the inlets and outlets.

VIII & IX COMMENTS OR QUESTIONS ON ONR REPORT FOR DUNGENESS B, FIONA HUNTER, ONR INSPECTOR (NOT PRESENT) & COMMENTS OR QUESTIONS ON ONR REPORT FOR DUNGENESS A, ROWLAND COOK, ONR INSPECTOR (NOT PRESENT) REPORTS CIRCULATED FOR BOTH

3593 Col. Smyth asked that as there are no ONR reps there to speak at today's meeting if the SSG could read through the reports provided in their packs and any questions or comments be emailed to him and they can be discussed at the next meeting.

X COMMENTS OR QUESTIONS ON ENVIRONMENTAL UPDATE FOR DUNGENESS A DUNGENESS B – PHIL FAHEY, EA INSPECTOR, DUN A, ANDREW STONE, EA INSPECTOR, DUN B

3594 Phil Fahey – Dungeness A

Phil Fahey has confirmed it is a busy time at Dungeness A and there are some issues to be discussed including:

- One incident of a minor non-compliance which involved some active material in general wastage, this was down to poor segregation – Phil has confirmed that improvements have been made to the processes after Advice and Guidance.
- There was an incident of what was thought to be active material going out through the drains, this was down to bacterial growth from showers. This has been rectified through cleaning of the two tanks including drainage. The changes have led to the change of how the waste water is drained.

3595 Andrew Stone – Dungeness B

Andrew Stone ran through his report and has informed the SSG that they have received two applications from EDF:

- One application for a variation to the Environmental Permit for discharging water into the channel to cater for a proposed new sewage treatment plant on site.
- 2nd application for a variation to their Environmental Permit for transporting radioactive waste off site.

These applications are currently under consultation after a joint inspection with office of nuclear regulation. Decision is to be made.

XI NDA UPDATE – JONATHAN JENKIN, NDA STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENT MANAGER

3595 Jonathan Jenkin made highlights from the monthly report including the decision to terminate Magnox's contract and informed the SSG that there were three elements to this decision.

- This has been a mutual agreement between both parties, there is substantial work needed for maintenance and care state. On legal advice it has been deemed not legally sustainable.
- The NDA have settled a £100m with Energy Solutions for their legal claim, the NDA have apologised for errors as this was a huge sum of money to be paid by the tax payer. The NDA took the decision to settle and sever the contract to protect the tax payers from further costs.
- There will be an inquiry and this may have implications for other public services, the interim report may be delayed due to the general election.

Jonathan has stated that there have been important lessons learned in this situation and there will be serious consideration to all present and future endeavours moving forward. Jonathan said that Dungeness is currently business as usual and they are fully cooperating with the inquiry and providing updates regularly where possible.

3596 Jonathan invited questions from the SSG

Q: Is this a time for competition?

A: These sorts of competitions take time, but we will act within the two years and no decision will be made without first looking at all the options.

Q: if you take Magnox under your wing will you run them as a company?

A: Whatever decision is taken, it is important to remember that Magnox is a licensed body and must meet regulatory requirements and remain compliant, as can be seen from the Sellafield relationship. It removes the transaction costs and will be an option for Magnox as of September 2019.

Q: Will Dungeness continue the funding for Social Economic funding?

A: NDA and Magnox still have the funding and all processes will be the same.

Q: Why have Cavendish Fluor lost the contract?

A: Cavendish Fluor has performed well and was the NDA's preferred bidder. However, there is now a material difference in scope between the work required to decommissioning the Magnox sites and what the NDA specified in the original tender process. This means the contract is not legally sustainable. The High Court judgement also established that there were errors made in the scoring process and that, if scored correctly, Energy Solutions would have won the contract.

Q: What about the further development of the decommissioning?

A: Magnox and Cavendish Fluor think that significantly more work needs to be done to decommission the Magnox sites than the NDA specified in the original tender process. Project delays have resulted in increased costs. The asbestos problem at multiple sites has also contributed to the material difference in scope. Other companies may wish to consider legal claims. However, the action taken will reduce the risk of further legal action and therefore further cost to the taxpayer. The inquiry will show what went wrong and how we can learn further.

Q: Surely there is a danger that this will happen again?

A: What is really important to the NDA is that as far as humanly possible mistakes are learned so they cannot be repeated. We have a duty to the tax payer to deliver good value for money. This was a flawed procurement and we want to ensure that the future arrangements for managing the NDA's relationship with Magnox are legally sound and managed in the best way for the tax payer.

3597 **Q:** Should responsibility for managing site management competitions be handed to another organisation?

A: The NDA as a public body is accountable to the government and to parliament and needs to be held accountable. Lessons will be learnt. The public expect greater accountability for how public money is managed and ultimately we are responsible.'

XII NFLA SURVEY ON SSGs – GEORGE SMYTHE, SSG CHAIRMAN

3598 Col. Smythe had distributed the Nuclear Free Local Authorities briefing paper prior to the meeting amongst the SSG and described it as a fairly one sided paper and it will be discussed at the NDA Chairs meeting next week. He thanked those who had commented on the paper. Col Smythe stated he has gone through the paper and has made points. His first impression is the person who produced the report is not satisfied with the way some SSGs are run and NFLA and NGOs feel neglected and not listened to. It appears to be a personal vendetta against Bradwell and it is not a true reflection of all SSGs.

Col. Smythe has asked for any other bullet points for him to take to the next meeting and this will be updated to the SSG at the earliest opportunity. Although Col. Smythe feels that the Dungeness SSG are open and transparent with a clear set of goals for

the community and stakeholders. He will share all information with the SSG as soon as he gets it and they are open for all to attend. He has also reiterated that they have never had any issues with sub committees with the NDA and that the ONR and EA attend meetings regularly.

Overall the report seems to be very biased and not a fair representation of the Dungeness SSG, it has not been NDA commissioned and it is purely the views of the Nuclear Free Local Authorities. We were asked to comment and this was provided.

XIII SOCIO ECONOMIC UPDATE – GEORGE SMYTHE, SSG CHAIRMAN

3599 Col. Smythe has confirmed the following:

- Romney Marsh Partnership will have continued funding for three years.
- New Romney Development of Mountfield Road if funding becomes available.
- Jam on the Marsh has been supported, but this will need to be looked at again next year as they have had funding prior to 2017.

Graham Hammond of Shepway District Council is thankful for the money for the Romney Marsh Partnership and there will be continued discussions around the development of the Mountfield Industrial estate.

Col. Smythe outlined the funding that has been allocated to date for 2017 – 2018 and informed the SSG that this can be found on page 10 of the Dungeness A Closure Director's report in the meeting pack.

XIV NOMINATION OF VICE CHAIRMAN

3600 David Godfrey has put his name forward for the position of Vice Chairman, he has explained that he was born and bred in Lydd and has a commercial background and is passionate about what goes on in the local area.

Cllr. Laws proposed David Godfrey's nomination as Vice Chairman
Cllr. Wilkins seconded the proposal

3601 David Godfrey has been elected as Vice Chairman to the Dungeness Site Stakeholder Group as of Thursday 22nd June 2017.

XV ANY OTHER BUSINESS

3602 Affinity Water – John Royal-Simpson has advised that there have been changes to the way non-residential organisations purchase their water. There is allowed to be competition and there can now be choice in this purchase. These changes will move over to residential as well in the future.

Q: From the quarterly report what is the current situation at Bradwell?

A: The NDA is focused on a decommissioning and preparing the site for entry into Care and Maintenance. There is no answer to the progression plans currently to create a reactor but it will not be as advanced as Hinkley

XVI DATE AND TIME OF NEXT MEETING

12 October 2017, to commence 10.00am for a 10.30am start.

Col. George Smythe closed the meeting at 12:09

