

**OLDBURY ON SEVERN POWER STATION
SITE STAKEHOLDER GROUP
SUMMARY OF KEY POINTS ARISING AT THE MEETING HELD ON
WEDNESDAY 25 APRIL 2018**

- Chairman Mr Malcolm Lynden welcomed members to the meeting. Mr Lynden expressed members' thanks to Cllr Mike Hawkins, Vice Chairman of the Group, who had decided to retire. Members approved the appointment of Cllr Matthew Riddle as Vice Chairman to succeed Cllr Hawkins.
- Members approved a revised constitution for the Group which had been prepared following discussions by a sub group of members.
- Site Closure Director Mr Mike Heaton reported on the continued safety of activities at the Oldbury Site. There had been no significant safety events and compliance had been maintained with all regulatory requirements.
- Mr Heaton reported that the revised contingency plans for dealing with an emergency on the site had been demonstrated in an exercise to the satisfaction of the Office for Nuclear Regulation's inspectors.
- Mr Heaton described the progress of decommissioning work on site, including work in the cooling ponds and preparations for the processing of radioactive waste. He pointed out that planning consent was required for construction of a new advanced vacuum drying system to be used for removing moisture from containers of radioactive waste.
- Reports were received from the local site inspectors of the Office for Nuclear Regulation and the Environment Agency. No significant issues had arisen from their inspections.
- Mr Bill Hamilton presented a report on behalf of the Nuclear Decommissioning Authority. He provided an update on issues of current interest and invited members of the Group to attend a stakeholder event to be held at Berkeley college on 10/11 July.
- Mr Leon Flexman and Mr David Watson provided members with an update on behalf of Horizon Nuclear Power. They outlined progress with the development of proposals for construction of a new nuclear power station at Wylfa in Anglesey and described the successful completion of the regulatory process which had approved the design of the Advanced Boiling Water Reactor as being suitable for construction in the UK. They pointed out that Wylfa Newydd was Horizon's lead station and said that detailed development of proposals for a new station at Oldbury would follow after firm decisions were taken on construction at Wylfa.

**OLDBURY ON SEVERN POWER STATION
SITE STAKEHOLDER GROUP
MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD AT THE OLDBURY CONFERENCE
CENTRE ON WEDNESDAY 25 APRIL 2018**

PRESENT:

Mr M Lynden (in the chair)	-	Oldbury on Severn Parish Council
Cllr Ms C Collinson	-	Aust Parish Council
Cllr D Dovey	-	Monmouthshire County Council
Cllr C Evers	-	Glos Assoc of Parish and Town Councils
Cllr D Griffiths	-	Oldbury on Severn Parish Council
Cllr M J Hawkins	-	Aust Parish Council
Dr L Hales	-	Independent Environmental Consultant
Cllr J O'Neill	-	South Gloucestershire Council
Cllr M Riddle	-	South Gloucestershire Council
Mrs E Vaughan Lewis	-	Rockhampton Parish Council
Mr B Roberts	-	Thornbury Chamber of Commerce
Mr J Stanton	-	Berkeley SSG
Cllr K Sullivan	-	Oldbury on Severn Parish Council
Cllr Mrs P Wride	-	Berkeley SSG

IN ATTENDANCE:

Mr W Hamilton	-	Nuclear Decommissioning Authority
Mr A Lord	-	Environment Agency
Ms G Ellis-King	-	South Gloucestershire Council
Mr L Flexman	-	Horizon Nuclear Power
Mr D Watson	-	Horizon Nuclear Power
Ms C Loveday	-	Horizon Nuclear Power
Ms S Stagg	-	James Reed PR
Mr M Heaton	-	Oldbury on Severn Power Station
Ms G Coombs	-	Magnox
Mr W Gill		
Mr M J Davis (Secretary)		

WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS

- 1 Mr Lynden welcomed everyone to this meeting of the Oldbury on Severn Site Stakeholder Group. He expressed a particular welcome to Cllr Ms Collinson, who was attending for the first time as a representative of Aust Parish Council; and to Mr Lord, who was attending for the first time as representative of the Environment Agency. He welcomed also the representatives of Horizon Nuclear Power who were attending to give a presentation later on the agenda.
- 2 Mr Lynden drew members' attention to the decision of Mr Mike Hawkins, Vice Chairman of the Group, to retire. He paid tribute to the contribution which Mike

had made to the work of this Group and the help and support he had given as Vice Chairman. He made a small presentation to Mr Hawkins and expressed to him members' best wishes for the future.

APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

- 3 Apologies for absence were received from Mr K Warren, Falfield Parish Council, Mr A Mitchell, Mr N Shaw, Cllr Mrs H Molyneux, Mr G Jones and Cllr G Rawlinson.

MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETINGS

(a) Accuracy

- 4 The minutes of the meeting of this Group held on 31 January were approved as an accurate record.

(b) Matters arising

- 5 There were no matters arising from the minutes of the previous meeting.

ELECTION OF VICE CHAIRMAN

- 6 Mr Lynden pointed out that Cllr M Riddle had been nominated to serve as Vice Chairman of the group as successor to Cllr Hawkins and that Cllr Riddle was prepared to undertake that role. There were no other nominations and members unanimously approved the appointment of Cllr Riddle as Vice Chairman.

PUBLIC FORUM

- 7 Mr Lynden invited members of the public to raise any issues which might not arise in discussion later in the meeting. No such issues were raised.

REVIEW OF SSG CONSTITUTION

- 8 Mr Lynden drew members' attention to the revised draft constitution of the Group, which had been prepared following discussions between members of the Sub Group established at the previous meeting, and circulated to members in advance of this meeting. During discussion Ms Ellis-King suggested that it would be helpful in the constitution to include a glossary of acronyms used within the document. Subject to that amendment members approved the revised constitution for this Site Stakeholder Group with thanks to Mr Lynden and members of the Sub Group for their work in reviewing the constitution and preparing the revised draft.

QUARTERLY REPORTS

Site Closure Director's Report

- 9 Mr Heaton reported on recent activities at the Oldbury site, drawing particular attention to the following:
- (i) The Site had maintained its high standards of safety performance. There had been no significant events or instances of non-compliance with regulatory requirements. Oldbury and Berkeley were both amongst the five sites within the company which had achieved zero accident frequency rates during the past year.
 - (ii) The new contingency arrangements for dealing with emergencies on site had been successfully demonstrated to the satisfaction of the Office for Nuclear Regulation since the previous meeting.
 - (iii) Reporting on the progress of decommissioning work on the Site, Mr Heaton described the work being undertaken within the cooling ponds area including the removal of equipment and fuel skips and preparations for the packaging, removal and processing of IONSIV filters and cartridges. He explained the work being done to remove minor amounts of debris from the pond floor and described the initial reduction of 500 mm in pond water level.
 - (iv) Planning consent had been approved for the construction of a new facility to house an advanced vacuum drying system. This plant was required for conditioning sludges and resins within containers which would be despatched to Berkeley for storage. The plant would be similar to that in use at Berkeley. Discharges from the plant would be very low but would require approval from the Environment Agency.
 - (v) Work continued on necessary maintenance of buildings. Water supply systems within the Reactor Controlled Area which, with reduced occupancy levels were no longer required, were being removed to avoid potential legionella risks.
 - (vi) Some preliminary work was being undertaken in advance of demolition of the Turbine Hall; demolition was expected to take place during 2020/21
 - (vii) Mr Heaton invited members to apply to the company for socio-economic funding which was available to support local causes.
- 10 In reply to a question from Mr Gill, Mr Heaton explained that security exercises were based upon a range of scenarios posing potential security threats to the site.
- 11 Cllr Riddle referred to the large quantities of radioactive sludge at the bottom of cooling ponds at Sellafield and asked if similar conditions existed at Oldbury. Mr Heaton said that accumulations of sludge in ponds at Sellafield had been

caused by corrosion of fuel in storage and the accumulation of debris in open-air ponds. He said that the conditions in the cooling ponds at Oldbury were acknowledged as being the best at any of the Magnox power station sites with effective chemical control throughout the life of the plant having prevented corrosion of fuel elements. The debris at the bottom of the pond was essentially graphite dust which had fallen from the surface of fuel elements and which was being removed by vacuum equipment.

- 12 Mr Heaton explained that the IONSIV filters and cartridges were to be loaded into a "mosaic" container within the pond, removed from the pond area via the former transport flask corridor, drained of water and conditioned using an ambient temperature conditioning system which was being installed in a redundant building. The filled containers would be despatched to Berkeley for storage.

Office for Nuclear Regulation

- 13 It was noted that Mr Shaw had been unable to attend this meeting but copies of his report had been circulated to members in advance of the meeting.
- 14 Mr Heaton pointed out that Mr Shaw had been to Site and carried out inspections into compliance with various Site Licence Conditions with satisfactory results. He said that a Periodic Safety Review report had been submitted to the Office for Nuclear Regulation since the previous meeting and that ONR had issued a Licence Instrument permitting the introduction of revised emergency arrangements.

Environment Agency

- 15 Mr Lord introduced himself as the Environment Agency's newly appointed Lead Regulator for Oldbury. He referred to his report to members which had been circulated in advance of the meeting. He said that there had been no non-compliances with any environmental requirements at the Oldbury Site.
- 16 Mr Lord referred to the report on Radioactivity in Food and the Environment for 2016, published by the EA with other agencies in October 2017. He said that the report indicated a slight increase in the potential annual radiation exposure to members of the public from 0.005 mSv to 0.006 mSv. He said that this assessed potential exposure was equivalent to less than 1% of the statutory dose limit and was attributable to higher traces of naturally occurring carbon-14 in milk. He said that discharges and potential radiation doses from the site remained low with a longer term reducing trend.

Nuclear Decommissioning Authority

- 17 Mr Hamilton provided an update on issues of current interest, drawing particular attention to the following:
- (i) The Princess Royal had unveiled a plaque to commemorate the official opening of the nuclear archive at Wick.

- (ii) NDA had published information on differences in average earnings between men and women throughout its organisation. It had also published its Business Plan for the coming three years and a report on its socio-economic support for local communities.
- (iii) The parliamentary Public Accounts Committee had published a report on its consideration of NDA's contract for the management of the Magnox Sites. Recommendations contained in the report had all been acted upon or were in the process of being acted upon. The report of the Holliday inquiry and the decision of the Secretary of State on the future management model for the Magnox Sites were both still awaited.
- (iv) A possible change in strategy to accelerate reactor dismantling, as discussed at the previous meeting of this Group, was shortly to be considered by the NDA Board. If such a change was accepted by the NDA Board, government approval would be required before consideration could be given to possible priorities for advancing work at individual sites.
- (v) Government was to initiate a consultation on regulatory controls which might be proportionate to hazards on decommissioned nuclear sites. This consultation was scheduled to commence in May and there would be a series of workshops which it was hoped representatives of SSGs would be able to attend.
- (vi) A stakeholder summit was to be held at the South Gloucestershire and Stroud College at Berkeley on 10/11 July. The event would include displays and presentations by senior personnel from government, the NDA and the industry. Mr Hamilton invited all members of the group to attend - details of the agenda would be circulated in due course.
- (vii) Government had established two consultations on geological disposal of radioactive waste.

HORIZON UPDATE

- 18 Mr Flexman outlined progress being made by Horizon Nuclear Power with the development of proposals for establishment of a new nuclear power station at Wylfa in Anglesey. He said it was anticipated that an investment decision would be taken in 2019/20. He emphasised that Wylfa Newydd was Horizon's lead site and development of proposals for a new station at Oldbury would follow after a decision was taken to proceed at Wylfa. In relation to proposals for a new station at Oldbury, he said that Horizon was committed to the use of hybrid forced draft cooling towers which would have less visual impact and further work would be required on flood protection issues.
- 19 Mr Watson explained the progress which had been made in securing regulatory approval for the Advanced Boiling Water Reactor design proposed for use at Wylfa Newydd. He pointed out that reactors of this type were in operation and

under construction around the world and had been completed within planned timescales and budget estimates. He said that the generic design assessment process, which had been completed successfully in December 2017, confirmed that the reactor type was suitable for use in the UK. Proposals for developments at specific sites would have to demonstrate that the site-specific conditions were bounded by the conditions assumed in the generic assessment. The generic design assessment process had taken account of international trends, lessons from the Fukushima accident and specific UK requirements.

- 20 During brief discussion Cllr Sullivan expressed some concerns and identified the need for local people to have more information on a range of issues including future land requirements, road access to the site and flood protection measures. In reply to a question from Cllr Evers, Mr Watson said he anticipated that potential radiation exposures to operators and members of the public during operation and maintenance of a UK ABWR plant would be as low as at any new plants in the world and as low as currently achieved in UK plants.

CHAIR'S UPDATE

- 21 Mr Lynden outlined meetings which he had attended with the NDA and the chairs of other SSGs. He said that a recent meeting had been attended by Mr Holliday who had confirmed that his inquiry was considering actions taken by government as well as by the NDA.

FUTURE MEETINGS

- 22 Mr Lynden referred to discussions with Cllr Mrs Wride on the pattern of future meetings of the Oldbury and Berkeley Site Stakeholder Groups. He suggested that there should be two joint meetings of the Groups, in spring and autumn, alternating between separate meetings of the Groups in summer and winter. He said that such an approach would ease the workload for staff and regulators presenting information to the Groups and would save costs. This proposed arrangement was acceptable to members.

ANY OTHER BUSINESS

No Business

DATE TIME AND PLACE OF NEXT MEETING

- 23 It was noted that the next meeting of this Group was to be held on 1 August 2018 - this was a change from the previously scheduled date of 25 July. Arrangements for the meeting would be confirmed in due course.

MJD
27 April 2018