

DUNGENESS A SITE AND B POWER STATION

SITE STAKEHOLDER GROUP

MINUTES OF THE 9th MEETING

DUNGENESS B TRAINING CENTRE

THURSDAY 15th APRIL 2010

Attendance:

Mrs G Baker	-	NR, Lydd & Greatstone Resident's Assoc.
Ms M Barnes	-	EDF Energy
Mrs L Barry	-	Minute Taker
Mrs P Burt	-	Dungeness B Power Station
Cllr Mrs V Dawson	-	Shepway District Council
Ms J Dear	-	Natural England
Cllr T Fawthrop	-	East Sussex County Council
Mr K Franks	-	Independent Member
Mr G Finn	-	Dungeness B Power Station
Cllr B Gadd	-	East Sussex County Council
PC W Glennie	-	Kent Police
Dr V Green	-	NII (Dungeness B)
Cllr M Kenward	-	Rother District Council
Cllr D Kersey	-	Lydd Town Council
Ms M Knollys	-	Natural England
Cllr D Lawton	-	New Romney Town Council
Mr O Leyshon	-	Romney Marsh Countryside Project
Cllr Mrs M Masters	-	Lydd Town Council
Mr S Matthews	-	Dungeness A Site
Mrs H Morris	-	Dungeness A Site
Ms K Mueller	-	Health Protection Agency
Cllr B Naughton	-	Ashford Borough Council
Dr P Naylor	-	Environment Agency
Cllr Mrs J Newton	-	New Romney Town Council
Mr T Preston	-	Dymchurch Parish Council
Mr S Shaw	-	Dungeness B Power Station
Col G Smythe	-	Independent Chairman
Mr A Snoad	-	New Romney Town Council
Cllr Mrs C Waters	-	Shepway District Council
Mr P Warham	-	Dungeness A Site
Mrs D Webb	-	Dungeness B Power Station
Dr C Wells	-	Kent & Canterbury Hospital
Mr D Williams	-	Dungeness A Site
Mr C Woods	-	NDA (Dungeness A)
Mrs L Wright	-	Dungeness A Site

I INTRODUCTION

- 2671 Col. Smythe welcomed members and guests to the 9th meeting of the Site Stakeholder Group (SSG).

II APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

The following apologies were received:

Mr C Albrow	-	Independent Member
Mr B Archer	-	NII (Dungeness A)
Ms L Barton	-	Lydd Airport Action Group
Mr B Botley	-	KARE
CI Martin Bradley	-	Kent Police
Mr T Dapling	-	Sussex Sea Fisheries
Mr D Dicker	-	Dungeness A Site
Mr M England	-	Dungeness A Site
Mr R Parker-Harding	-	Rother District Council
Mr G Holt	-	NHS
Mr D Illsley	-	Shepway District Council
Mr R Johnson	-	Channel Chamber of Commerce
Mr N Johnstone	-	Kent County Council
Mr P Mountford-Lister	-	Environment Agency
Mr G McHale	-	Veolia Water Southeast
Mr A Parry	-	Independent Vice Chairman
Mr C Richards	-	Dungeness A Site
Cllr W Richardson	-	Shepway District Council
Mr D Scott	-	Lydd Airport Action Group
Ms M Stuart	-	KARE
Mr D Whitnall	-	Dungeness A Site
Mrs L Whenday	-	Dungeness Residents' Association

III MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 10th September 2009

- 2672 The minutes of the 8th Site Stakeholder Group (SSG) meeting held on 10th September 2009 and those of the 4th Annual General Meeting held on 3rd December 2009 were agreed as an accurate record.

IV CORRESPONDENCE

- 2673 A list of correspondence distributed to SSG members was circulated.

V MATTERS ARISING FROM THE 7th MEETING

- 2674 Future transportation direction and principles i.e., barges, rail, road etc. Col Smythe raised this question at the last National Stakeholder Group (NSG) and reported that at present no site specific guidance is available. A workshop had been held at the NSG regarding the latest points of impact and the NSG transport strategy, use of rail and road where practicable. At present the NDA want to use what is currently available.

VI SITE DIRECTOR'S REPORT – DUNGENESS A SITE

- 2675 Steve Matthews, Plant Manager presented the Site Director's Report for Dungeness A. The main points were:
- There have been no lost time accidents for staff or contractors working at Dungeness A for over 1.56 million man hours and the focus on a proactive approach to improving safety awareness continues.
 - There were two recent events on site but there were no injuries or danger to the public or the environment. However, as a result, a thorough review of processes is being undertaken.
 - Nearly 15,000 fuel elements have been removed from the reactors. It is hoped that fuel flask availability will improve shortly therefore increasing despatch of spent fuel to Sellafield for reprocessing.
 - Dungeness A achieved another first for the nuclear industry by successfully transferring fuel element debris (intermediate level waste) into a Mosaik® box for storage.
- 2676 Q - Are DNA advocating greater use of the ponds and will this affect their clearance?
A - Until the spent fuel is to be dispatched it is better to keep it in the reactor core. We are capable of despatching six or seven tonnes of fuel every week and pond stocks are maintained at 20Te per reactor pond. We need to hold enough fuel outside of the reactor to ensure we can fill flasks as they arrive from Sellafield.
- 2677 Col. Smythe advised that the NSG was informed that the Magnox Operating Plan Rev 8 has become a critical issue for the Company and is currently being revised.

VII NII REPORT FOR DUNGENESS A SITE

2678 No issues.

VII SITE DIRECTOR'S REPORT – DUNGENESS B POWER STATION

- 2679 Graham Finn, Site Director presented the Report for Dungeness B. The main points were:
- Dungeness B Reactor 22 was successfully returned to service on 18th February. The unit had been shutdown on 24th November following a small fire in the boiler annexe.
 - Dungeness B Reactor 21 is shutdown for its normal statutory outage and most of the work has been completed. We anticipate completing work to return the unit to service during Q2.

- Draft National Policy Statement - We were disappointed to see that Dungeness was not included in the draft National Policy Statement on nuclear energy. We feel that it is too early to rule out Dungeness' potential role as a site suitable for future low carbon. We outlined our position before the DECC Select Committee on 27 January, stressing that we agree with the Government's conclusion on the urgent need for substantial amounts of new low-carbon generation to be on stream by 2025, a significant proportion of which is expected to be met by nuclear power.
- Fuel route outage - Dungeness B is nearing the end of its 2 yearly fuel route outage. We have also taken the opportunity to carry out some enhancement work as part of this project.

2680 No issues.

VIII NII REPORT FOR DUNGENESS B POWER STATION

2681 No issues.

X FEEDBACK FROM NATIONAL STAKEHOLD GROUP – GEORGE SMYTHE

2682 Col Smythe attended the NSG Chairman's meeting where the Nuclear Decommissioning Authority (NDA) report was discussed from a site specific perspective. Some of the site specific issues discussed were:

- Availability of flasks
- Site end state
- Environmental brief on New Builds
- NDA updated strategy
- Waste Management including the use of 'Yellow Boxes' at DNA
- Possible site(s) for a National Waste Repository

2683 Q - At present there is no Plan B for waste storage, yet support for Dungeness C is overwhelming unless it involves more waste being stored at site.

A - The waste currently on site (further waste will not be imported to site) will be kept until a national repository becomes available. The Government will proceed with their volunteer plan only (i.e., Councils will volunteer to have repository built in their area.) and do not wish the NDA to look at any alternatives.

2684 Q - Will delay in waste storage spend delay new build?

A - There is no direct link between the two.

2685 Q - Could the 'anti-lobby' in other areas help us, who want new build, secure approval for new build locally?

A - Locally there is interest in new build at Dungeness, although waste strategies for new builds have not been identified at present. The NDA have assessed to see whether fuel from new build will be suitable to go into reprocessing. Advances in storage/reprocessing are being made all the time.

- 2686 Q - Can waste from fuel be recycled?
A - The used fuel elements have been sent to Sellafield for reprocessing during the generating years of the site and we have continued to do this since cessation of generation. This will continue until all the fuel elements have been removed from the reactors (currently estimated to be completed by the end 2011 subject to transport flask availability).
- 2687 Q - Will transportation of Yellow Boxes be by road or rail?
A - A specific transportation document will be produced but the main emphasis will be rail. Previously it was hoped they could go by sea but this isn't possible.
- 2688 Q - Are individual authorities consulted when waste is transported through their areas?
A - Yes. Surveys will also be carried out in other Local Authority areas. The content of our Yellow Boxes is ILW not fuel and have significantly lower levels than moving fuel elements.

XI ENVIRONMENTAL UPDATE

- 2689 No issues.

XII PRESENTATION BY PAUL NAYLOR, ENVIRONMENT AGENCY INSPECTOR, DUNGENESS B

- 2690 Q - Environment Assist – does this working process include working with Natural England?
A - This is a British Energy project utilising expertise around the British Energy fleet. This is a British Energy innovation on how the site manages the environment to minimise the impact on the environment.
- 2691 Q - Are Natural England and the Environment Agency one agency?
A - No although we both report to the Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs (DEFRA) and we have a lot of linked goals.
- 2692 Q - Have there been any gaseous discharges to date?
A - No concerns on day to day compliances.

XIII NDA UPDATE – CLIVE WOODS, SITE PROGRAMME MANAGER FOR BRADWELL, DUNGENESS AND SIZEWELL

- 2693 Q - What are the benefits of accelerated Care and Maintenance (C&M), would it mean we would lose jobs quicker?
A - The benefit is a cost saving of approximately £20m/year which is particularly important to the Government. Staff numbers will be reduced but skills retraining will take place to aid employment with other Nuclear Companies.

XIV REPORT ON THE EMERGENCY PLANNING CONSULTATIVE COMMITTEE (EPCC) FOR DUNGENESS A & B SITES – PETER WARHAM

2694 No issues.

XV SOCIO-ECONOMIC UPDATE – GEORGE SMYTHE

2695 Cllr Mrs Waters thanked Col Smythe and Mrs H Morris for all the hard work carried out by them.

2696 Q - Meeting regarding new build did not deal with the nub of problem.
A - Natural England report should be gone through line by line.

Q - What help is available to look at the environmental issues?
A - If we had Dungeness C site a lot of the socio-economic problems would not exist. Natural England advised that the site footprint is protected by English and European Laws. They were asked to inform the Government of any impact of the proposed new build on this site which is a protected, fragile and unique area. There are very few shingle sites here and in Europe.

2697 Q - If a new station was built on the same footprint could this make a difference?
A - There are two stations here currently and over time we have recognised that we need to protect the environment. This area is nationally and internationally important. The projected site for Dungeness C is not within the developed area and is designated SSSI.

XVI ANY OTHER BUSINESS

2698 No issues.

XVII DATE AND TIME OF NEXT MEETING

The proposed date for the next Site Stakeholder Group Meeting is **Thursday 30th September 2010.**