



HUNTERSTON SITE STAKEHOLDER GROUP

The Sixty Eighth Meeting of the Hunterston Site Stakeholder Group will take place on
Thursday 1 June 2023 at 1330 Hrs

Venue – The Waterside, Ardrossan Road, West Kilbride, KA23 9NG
Light Refreshments will be served from 1245 prior to the meeting

AGENDA

13.30 Chairman's Opening Remarks and Declarations of Interest

13.35 Chair and Vice Chair Updates and Correspondence

13.40 Actions and approval of previous Minutes

13.45 Hunterston B Site Reports

Hunterston B Report – Allison Adamson / Joe Struthers

ONR Report – Steve Saunders

SEPA Report – Keith Hammond

Hunterston B Decommissioning Plan – Tom Tremlett

***Members Question and Answer Session
Public Forum***

14.45 Hunterston A Site Reports

Hunterston A Site Report – Mark Blackley

ONR Report – Rowland Cook / Peter Hughes

SEPA Report – Melanie Hayes

***Members Question and Answer Session
Public Forum***

15.30 Update from NDA

David Wallace

Update from Magnox

Bill Hamilton

Update from Scottish Government

Diane Hamilton

***Members Question and Answer Session
Public Forum***

15.55 Any Other Business

Next Meeting Thursday 14 September 2023

**HUNTERSTON SITE STAKEHOLDER GROUP
SUMMARY OF KEY POINTS FROM THE SIXTY SIXTH MEETING
HELD ON THURSDAY 2 MARCH 2023
AT THE WATERSIDE HOTEL, ARDROSSAN ROAD, WEST KILBRIDE, KA23 9NG**

Chair's Opening Remarks and Vice Chair Updates and Correspondence

The Chair and Vice Chair attended the SSG Chairs and Vice Chairs meeting on Zoom on 9 December. Ms Holmes had written to North Ayrshire Council's Chief Executive regarding spent fuel flask transport and emergency plans. The SSG responded to the consultation on the NDA draft Business Plan. Assistance from Magnox and NDA was requested and offered on the current consultation of proposals for a revised UK-wide Policy Framework for Nuclear Decommissioning and the Management of Radioactive Substances, ending on 24 May 2023. The Chair was concerned to hear of the seriousness of the Civil Nuclear Constabulary's (CNC) case of bullying which went to Court, where the victim had been awarded £40k+. The next Chairs and Vice Chairs meeting is online on 10 March 2023.

Actions and Approval of Previous Minutes

With some minor amendments to wording, the Minutes of the meeting of 1 December 2022 were approved and an update on actions received.

Hunterston B Report – Ms Allison Adamson, Mr Joe Struthers

Ms Adamson presented the report as Acting Site Director. Half of the spent fuel has been removed from Reactor 3. The data on flasks in the report reflects the strong performance. Transfer and Deconstruction Preparation is in the early stages of the framework. Safety and environmental performance has been strong, with the Total Recordable Incident Rate (TRIR) still at 0. Various safety campaigns have been delivered. The site continues to work with specialist contractors and SEPA as it has been unable to locate the source of the very small, low level oil leak using tracers. Changes were made to emergency arrangements in January based on Hunterston B's move to defueling. Work is taking place with North Ayrshire Council to update on-site and off-site emergency plans. Andy Dalling is his new role is carrying out recruitment which will allow for a seamless transfer. A supply of bedding items, purchased during the pandemic, have been handed over for to a homeless charity to use.

ONR Report –

Mr Fannin was not present at the meeting. The ONR report was circulated with meeting papers. The Chair read an email from Mr Fannin expanding on and clarifying points made at the December meeting.

SEPA Report – Mr Keith Hammond

Mr Hammond reported on a busy period. An inspection of radioactive waste transfers on 22 February found no contraventions. A number of recommendations were made on procedures. Radioactive discharges were well within authorised limits. At a corporate level, SEPA's Scottish Flood Forecast Service is going live, available daily on SEPA's website.

Hunterston A Reports – Mr Mark Blackley

Mr Blackley was pleased to see the NDA's draft Business Plan which gives timescales for sites. Site specific strategies are being developed and timeframes depend on opportunities and constraints, with Hunterston A's date being changed to 2050s. There have been no radiological or security issues. Following an inspection by SEPA on the defects in the ventilation systems, the site received a warning letter and a further warning letter has been received in respect of air conditioning systems. A six month F-gas leak test had been arranged but was delayed due to the contractor being ill, which took the site over the six month limit by the time it was undertaken. No defects were found but the site will undertake checks earlier in future to allow for circumstances like this in future. Repairs have been undertaken to the vent extraction system of the LLW processing facility prior to being returned to service. The site has received a joint statement from regulators, SEPA and ONR, on the grouting of bunker waste, giving clarity on a way forward with this issue. Accident and emergency contingency arrangements were demonstrated to ONR in December and graded 'adequate'. Under SAWBR delivery, 281 boxes have been exported from bunker 1 to the ILW store, bringing the total to 1,174. The SILWE plant has experienced robot issues, which the contractor is addressing. The reactor roof project has recommenced. Work on North Ayrshire's Future Skills Hub at Kilwinning Campus is progressing well and expected to be completed by September.

ONR Report –

Mr Fannin was not present at the meeting. The ONR report was circulated with meeting papers.

SEPA Report –

Ms Hayes was not present at the meeting. The SEPA report was circulated with meeting papers.

Update from Magnox – Mr Bill Hamilton

The new SSG website has been launched. The website will contain a calendar of events, meeting dates and meeting papers, biographies of Chairs, etc and questions can also be asked via the website. This is a way of widening engagement, particularly with young people, and being more inclusive in communities. Dounreay will join the Magnox estate on 1 April. Rebranding of the Magnox name will change in October. Magnox has agreed with North Ayrshire Council a contribution of £16,600 from an NDA-wide programme of emergency support to communities to ease the cost of living crisis, through the Fairer Food Network.

NDA Reports – Mr David Wallace

The UK Government has confirmed a number of new appointments. A Scottish Stakeholder Summit will be held on 28 June in Glasgow. An event in West Cumbria will be on 8 June and similar events will be held in Bangor and Bristol. The secondment of Laura Hogg to the Scottish Government ended in December but discussions are taking place for another one year secondment.

Update from Scottish Government –

Ms Hamilton was not present at the meeting. The Scottish Government report was circulated with meeting papers.

There were many questions asked by members after each presentation, the detail of which can be read in the full Minute of the meeting, available from the Secretariat.

Next Meeting – Thursday 1 June 2023 at 1.30 pm, in person at The Waterside Hotel, West Kilbride.



**HUNTERSTON SITE STAKEHOLDER GROUP
MINUTES OF SIXTY SEVENTH MEETING HELD ON
THURSDAY 2 MARCH 2023 AT 1.30 PM
THE WATERSIDE HOTEL, ARDROSSAN ROAD, WEST KILBRIDE, KA23 9NG**

Present

Magnox Ltd

Mr Mark Blackley (Site Director, Hunterston A)
Mr Richard Gibson (Engineering and
Infrastructure Manager)
Mr Colin Hargreaves (Independent Site Inspector)
Mr Bill Hamilton (Comms and Stakeholder Relations Director)
Mr Sean Marshall (Magnox Communications)

EDF (Hunterston B)

Ms Allison Adamson (Technical and Safety
Manager)
Ms Fiona McCall (External Comms)
Mr Stuart McGhie (SSG Vice Chair)
Mr Joe Struthers (Station Director)

Community Council Representatives

Mr Jamie Black (Largs CC)
Ms Rita Holmes – SSG Chair (Fairlie CC)
Mr John Lamb (West Kilbride CC)
Mr John McHenery (Cumbrae CC)

SEPA

Mr Keith Hammond

North Ayrshire Council (NAC)

Ms Lesley Jeffery (Civil Contingences Team)

ONR

Hunterston Estate

Mr Angus Cochran-Patrick

Scottish Government

NDA

Mr David Wallace (Stakeholder Lead Scotland)

NFU Scotland

In Attendance

Ms Sheila Adams (Minutes)
Ms Linda Grainey (Member of Public)

Mr Alan Holden (Member of Public)
Mr John Riddell (Member of Public)

Apologies

Mrs Jill Callander (Magnox, SSG Secretariat)
Mr Stuart Fannin (ONR)
Mr Paul Gilmartin (Civil Nuclear Constabulary)
Ms Diane Hamilton (Scottish Government)
Mr Craig Hatton (Chief Executive, North Ayrshire Council)
Cllr Alan Hill (North Coast)
Mr Stewart Mackenzie (Environmental Health, North Ayrshire Council)
Cllr Tom Marshall (North Coast)
Cllr Ian Murdoch (North Coast)

1. Chairman's Opening Remarks and Declarations of Interest

Ms Holmes, Chair, welcomed everyone to the sixty seventh meeting of the Hunterston Site Stakeholder Group in the Waterside Hotel, West Kilbride. All present introduced themselves. Ms Holmes read the apologies as listed above. There were no declarations of interest.

2. Chair and Vice Chair Updates and Correspondence

The Chair and Vice Chair attended the Zoom meeting of Site Stakeholder Group (SSG) Chairs and Vice Chairs on 9 December 2022. Discussions at that meeting included the NDA Draft Business Plan, newly formed NDA/NGO Forum, the new NDA/Magnox Site Stakeholder Group website and updates from each site.

Ms Holmes wrote to Craig Hatton, Chief Executive of North Ayrshire Council, as agreed at the December SSG meeting, regarding spent fuel flask transport and emergency plans. The Chair requested that a representative of the Civil Contingencies Team attend this meeting. With regard to this topic, the ONR Inspector for Hunterston had written to the Chair to clarify and enhance some comments he made (see Actions below). The Chair and Vice Chair responded on behalf of the SSG to the consultation on the NDA draft Business Plan, which was circulated to SSG members by the Secretariat.

Emails have been sent to SSG members by Scottish Government (Dan Couldridge), NDA (David Wallace) and SSG Secretariat (Cath Pritchard) alerting SSG members to the current consultation of proposals for a revised UK-wide Policy Framework for Nuclear Decommissioning and the Management of Radioactive Substances. Ms Holmes considered this to be an important consultation, meriting full consideration by all SSG members and a response. She asked Mr Hamilton if there were plans for any meetings or workshops to discuss the proposals or whether SSG members needed to read, meet and discuss the document to evaluate what the proposals could mean for Hunterston sites. Mr Hamilton advised that this is not a Magnox document but Magnox will assist if required. He suggested that Ms Holmes discuss this with other Chairs and Vice Chairs at their next meeting to get a view. Mr Wallace also offered the assistance of the NDA if required. Ms Holmes assumed that the Scottish Government's Higher Activity Waste Policy review relates to this and would like an update on this too. Mr Wallace advised that the revised Policy Framework relates to the UK Framework and although there is a link, it is not about Scottish Government policy but the UK Framework. Ms Holmes noted the deadline for responses to the consultation is 24 May 2023.

The Chair had emailed Fiona McCall of Hunterston B station regarding the Civil Nuclear Constabulary's (CNC) case of bullying which went to Court. Ms Holmes had been under the impression that this was a minor event but was wrong for not taking this more seriously as the victim had been awarded £40k+. The Chair had requested that CNC attended today's meeting to answer questions. Mr Gilmartin had sent apologies that he would be late in attending due to another meeting commitment but hoped to arrive later in the meeting (*Mr Gilmartin did not attend the meeting*).

The next Chairs and Vice Chairs meeting is online on 10 March 2023. Ms Holmes invited members to let herself or Mr McGhie know if they wished any particular items to be raised at the meeting.

3. Actions and Approvals of previous Minutes

Mr Marshall detailed the following amendments to the Minutes of 1 December 2022:

Page 6, last sentence before Item 8, replace the word 'fuel' with 'fluid'. The sentence should read 'Ms Hayes asked if the fire resistant **fluid** was contaminated or clean.'

Page 7, paragraph 3:

Existing paragraph:

Mrs Holmes noted that higher activity waste at Hunterston is contained in flasks and drums in the Intermediate Level Waste store and encapsulated. Before the Solid Intermediate Level Waste Encapsulation (SILWE) plant existed, EnergySolutions decided to put cement in the waste in the drums. This was a research project called Graphite Pathfinder, which was held up for two years and came to nothing. Hunterston now has a very expensive encapsulation plant which is not yet commissioned, waiting for cement to be put into drums. There are approximately 150 drums in the store concreted in. If Scotland changes its policy, the drums would be suitable for GDF as they are but Scottish Government is now looking again at near site, near surface.

To be replaced with:

Ms Holmes noted that the Higher Activity Waste (HAW) at Hunterston A is in stainless steel drums and boxes in the Intermediate Level Waste (ILW) store and is unencapsulated, apart from 150 drums for liquid waste, which have been encapsulated. EnergySolutions Graphite Pathfinder project led to delays in the Solid Intermediate Level Waste Encapsulation (SILWE) Plant being constructed. There is solid ILW in boxes, in the ILW store, which require "grouting" to meet criteria for the Geological Disposal Facility (GDF). NB Scottish Government Policy is for near site, near surface disposal. The waste from Bunker 1 contains Fuel Element Debris (FED), which is unsuitable for near surface disposal. Currently, Scottish Government is reviewing its HAW Policy, looking at near surface disposal for Hunterston ILW from Bunkers 2-5, instead of storage. SEPA and ONR are considering the quality categorisation of this waste.

Mr Marshall advised that Responses to the five actions in the Minutes (below) were circulated to members as part of the Committee pack of papers and asked if everyone was happy with the responses received. There were no further queries raised on the actions or responses:

Action – Mr Dalling to feed this concern back to Peel Ports and make further enquiries regarding the integrity of rail line for flask movements.

Response - Monthly Inspections are carried out by Pearson's Engineering Services who identify and plan maintenance and upkeep of the rail track. This is a Hunterston B cost as sole user (defined condition of the lease with Peel Port). Additional bi-annual inspections are carried out by Jacobs as independent verification. This is in accordance with a site specific Risk Assessment carried out by Pearson's and reviewed and agreed by station. The track is managed by Peel Port and costs are back charged to the station through the lease. Station review and approve the reports and work plans and request any additional work or inspections as required by either the annual report or arising concerns.

Action – Mr Dalling to advise Site Stakeholder Group members of the timeline for the next Hunterston B consultation exercise.

Response - The second round of consultation is expected to take place in late spring/early summer 2023. An indication of the findings from the first round will be shared before the second round takes place.

Action – Mr Dalling to advise Site Stakeholder Group members of where the fire-resistant fluid from the turbine hydraulics goes to and how it is dealt with.

Response - Fire Resistant Fluid (FRF) is a non-radioactive fluid used in turbine systems and is chemically treated to tolerate the elevated temperatures found in this equipment without combusting. Now the turbines are no longer operating there is no need for the FRF to stay at site and we have been working to drain the fluid and remove it.

The FRF was initially taken by a sub-contractor to Livingston. It was then transported to Kent for high temperatures incineration. The facility in Kent has an environmental permit in place to undertake such activities.

Action - Ms Hogg to consider if another response is to be provided to Mr Blacks question from Scottish Government - has Scottish Government given consideration to the use of Hunterston B site and what are the options?

Response - The Near Surface Disposal project that Scottish Government and the NDA are currently undertaking is to consider the technical issues involved in the delivery of Scottish Higher Activity Waste Policy. It might be helpful to explain that while there will be some broad scenarios considered, including around the Hunterston site as well as others, these are to inform our understanding of the technical issues and the project will not be making any decisions about future use of the Hunterston B site as per the previous answer.

Action – Chair, Rita Holmes, to write to North Ayrshire Council regarding Emergency Plan for fuel transportation.

Response – A copy of the letter sent was included in the meeting papers.

With the above amendments, the Minutes of the Site Stakeholder Group meeting, held on 1 December 2022, were proposed for approval by Mr John Lamb and seconded by Mr Stuart McGhie.

4. Hunterston B Station Reports

Hunterston B Report – Ms Allison Adamson, Mr Joe Struthers

The report issued with the meeting papers was taken as read. Mr Struthers advised that Ms Adamson would present the highlights of the report as Acting Station Director. Half of the spent fuel has been removed from Reactor 3. The data on flasks in the report reflects the strong performance, with no issues to report. The Transfer and Deconstruction Preparation is in the early stages of the framework, with EDF working with Magnox and the Future Missions team. All the current work is in the Strategy phase.

There has been strong performance under safety and the environment, with the Total Recordable Incident Rate (TRIR) still at 0. Various safety campaigns have been delivered, including winter weather, return to work after holidays, mental health, etc. Feedback on the campaigns has been collected from staff. All routine data under Radiological Protection is in the report. There have been no issues or significant events. With regard to the small, low level oil leak reported at previous meetings, the site continues to work with specialist contractors and SEPA as it has been unable to locate the source of the oil leak using tracers as the leak is so small. There were no issues to report under emergency arrangements. A level one demonstration exercise overseen by ONR was graded adequate. Exercises are planned throughout 2023 comprising two exercise seasons to demonstrate operating arrangements to ONR.

Changes were made to emergency arrangements in January based on Hunterston B's move to defueling. Work is taking place with North Ayrshire Council to update on-site and off-site emergency plans. Andy Dalling in his new role as Transfer and Deconstruction Preparations Manager is carrying out recruitment which will allow for a seamless transfer. A supply of bedding items, purchased during the pandemic, have been handed over for to a homeless charity to use.

SEPA Report – Mr Keith Hammond

The report issued with the meeting papers was taken as read. Mr Hammond reported on a busy period. An inspection of radioactive waste transfers on 22 February found no contraventions. A number of recommendations were made on procedures.

Radioactive discharges were well within authorised limits. At a corporate level, SEPA's Scottish Flood Forecast Service is going live, available daily on SEPA's website.

ONR Report –

The ONR report for October - December 2022 issued with the meeting papers was taken as read. Mr Fannin had sent apologies as he was unable to attend the meeting. Ms Holmes read out an email from Mr Fannin to correct and enhance his previous statements made at the Site Steering Group meeting in December 2022, with the following text from the ONR Transport Specialist Inspector:

“EDF are required to produce a transport radiation risk assessment for the Type B Mk 2 AGR Fuel Transport Flask, which is used to transport fuel. This details the radionuclides released, and the type of release. EDF have produced this transport radiation risk assessment, and it concludes that there is the possibility for a radiation emergency (estimated effective radiation doses above 1mSv to any individual over a period of one year following a transport emergency) to occur in the event of an accident. Therefore, a transport emergency plan is required under The Carriage of Dangerous Goods and Use of Transportable Pressure Equipment Regulations (CDG) 2009. It is worth noting that the effective radiation doses assume that shielding of the transport package is completely lost in the event causing the radiation emergency.

The production of these transport risk assessments and any subsequent transport emergency plan is the responsibility of the duty holder, rather than the Local Authority. However, CDG Schedule 2, part 1, Para 3(5)e requires the emergency plan to contain *‘the arrangements for providing early warning of the incident to the relevant local authority in which the radiation emergency has occurred, the type of information which should be contained in an initial warning and the arrangements of the provision of more detailed information as it becomes available.’*

EDF have a transport emergency plan which covers all EDF sites, and this is tested on a regular basis. ONR witnessed a test of the transport emergency plan at Torness in 2021, where it was given a rating of Green – No Formal Action. The link to the executive summary is here:

[Compliance inspection Transport of Radioactive Materials \(Class 7 dangerous goods\) \(onr.org.uk\)](https://onr.org.uk/compliance-inspection-transport-of-radioactive-materials-class-7-dangerous-goods)

ONR continues to monitor the testing of the Transport Emergency Plan and carries out periodic inspections of EDF's corporate transport emergency plan arrangements.

ONR has a useful document, available on the ONR website, called Five Steps to Transport Emergency Planning, which can be found at: [Five Steps to Transport Emergency Planning \(onr.org.uk\)](https://onr.org.uk/five-steps-to-transport-emergency-planning).

Should the Site Stakeholder Group require further information on the Transport Emergency Plan and transport radiation risk assessment, these inquiries should be made to EDF NGL as the duty holder in this case.”

Members Question and Answer Session

Mr Black noted that this is not within ONR's vires and found the clarification given above useful.

Ms Lesley Jeffery, read the following statement from North Ayrshire Council:

“The arrangements for the transportation for the spent fuel are covered by the Carriage of Dangerous Goods Act and RADSAFE, which is a scheme covering all the nuclear industry and some other users of radioactive materials, to provide a fast response, expert advice and support to the emergency services in the event of an incident involving the transport of radioactive materials.

The scheme involves notification systems, mobilisation of technical support and expert advice and, once the incident is under control, full clean-up and other remediation work at the scene by the consignment owner. It should be noted that since the RADSAFE came into effect in 1999 there has been about once incident per year, **none of them involved the release of any radioactive materials.**

Should an incident occur, the driver of the vehicle has responsibilities under RADSAFE which includes calling 999 and contacting RADSAFE for assistance. The driver will keep people away wherever possible and try to erect a temporary barrier around the affected area (this will likely need the assistance of the Police). There was a test of the RADSAFE arrangements for Hunterston B carried out at the Scottish Fire and Rescue centre at Cambuslang in November 2018.

The local authority does not have a role in RADSAFE as such but part of these arrangements are that they would be contacted **if the package sealing is impaired.** EDF, as the owner of the consignment, would provide a remediation plan which will assist the local authority to lead on the recovery. The recent exercise programme for Hunterston included a scenario in which a flask was compromised on one of the roads in the area.

Any response to this would include multi-agency partners, particularly Scottish Water and Scottish Environment Protection Agency. North Ayrshire Council would establish and chair the Recovery Working Group and use the relevant parts of the Off Site Emergency Plan and their own Civil Contingencies Response and Recovery Plan to start the recovery process. This will include establishing the Scientific and Technical Advice Cell and the Media Advice Cell so that the public are informed of what has happened (if required) and any action that they should take. There will also be different sub groups set up, for example, Care for People and Community Engagement.

Notwithstanding the above, following the request for further information from the Site Stakeholder Group, Ayrshire Civil Contingencies Team have recognised that the Off Site Emergency Plan would benefit from an additional Appendix, outlining exactly what each agency would do in the event of a RADSAFE incident in Ayrshire. We will work with colleagues in Cumbria (for Sellafield) to develop this in the next few months and include it in the plans for both Hunterston B and Sellafield.”

Ms Holmes was pleased to note the positive steps being taken and the timeframe of the next few months for doing so.

In respect of Mr Fannin's statement, Ms Holmes asked what would be released from Hunterston B. Ms Adamson was unable to answer this at the meeting and undertook to provide further information.

Action – Ms Adamson to provide further information on what would be released from Hunterston B.

Mr Lamb asked at which point emergency arrangements become current arrangements and if this is now or after defueling. Ms Adamson advised that there is a set of emergency arrangements in place now. The updated emergency arrangements change the size of the Detailed Planning Zone (DEPZ) and removes the requirement for stable iodine tablets. Mr Struthers added that the change in emergency arrangements recognises the reduction in hazard in the station going from generating to defueling, which is now more than 100 days. A similar process of change will be undertaken again in the future.

Mr Lamb asked how much oil is being leaked. Ms Adamson responded that the quantity is so small that it is difficult to detect the source of the leak as there is insufficient for the tracer to detect. Mr Lamb further asked how much oil is leaking and for how long it had been leaking.



Action – Mr Struthers reiterated that there had been no change to the leak and undertook to provide further information on this.

As a former plant engineer on site, Member of the Public A added that this was likely to be a few litres every month which was enough for the level in the reservoir to drop. Mr Struthers confirmed that the leak had not changed but is not visible on the route of the long underground cable. The station is continuing to engage with specialist contractors.

On rail safety, Mr Black referred to the train crash in Greece the previous day and to the Carmont and Grayrigg rail disasters and asked if end to end assessment of rail safety is suitably covered and if secondary monitoring takes place.

Action – Ms Jeffery undertook to provide a response to Mr Black's questions on rail assessment from end to end and secondary monitoring and to consider including this in the Appendix of the Off Site Emergency Plan.

Ms Holmes noted that it is not Network Rail but Direct Rail Services (DRS) train that transported spent nuclear fuel. She is aware that there is security on the spent fuel flask movements and thought it unlikely that a specific answer would be received because of the security around spent fuel. Mr Black pointed out that road movements are known but not rail movements. Ms Holmes reminded members that the Civil Nuclear Constabulary (CNC) are always on site, with a 5km jurisdiction, and she would like to think that they are extra vigilant when spent fuel is being transported. Mr Black would like to receive answers to the questions being asked. While not knowing the detail, Mr Hamilton advised that the answers are there. He clarified that DRS is a wholly owned subsidiary of the NDA, with major depots around the country and specially trained drivers. He suggested that a representative of DRS is invited to a Site Stakeholder Group meeting to explain the procedures.

Action – Mr Wallace undertook to ask DRS to draw up an explanation of procedures and/or attend a Site Stakeholder Group meeting to explain these.

Mr Black asked if there was a planned completion date for the defueling and deplanting. Mr Struthers confirmed that it will take 12 years to get to safe store with deplanting and strategy progressing in parallel. Defueling helps move forward with the transfer and the plan is progressing well with Magnox.

Mr Black asked how smaller companies could get involved and if there was a route in the supply chain for smaller companies to get work in non-radioactive deconstruction. Mr Hamilton advised that there is information available on the Magnox website or alternatively, to contact him directly and he would put enquirers in touch with the Procurement team. Mr Hamilton gave the example of Trawsfynydd as lead site, where there was a major procurement exercise for reducing the size of the reactors. Magnox works closely with the Government and there has been a series of supply chain events. More will happen over time as sites get closer to major procurement. Ms Jeffery referred to North Ayrshire Council's involvement in community wealth building. Mr Wallace added that tier one supply chain companies sub-contract to smaller local companies. There are 470 Scottish supply chain companies working in Scotland. The NDA holds a Scottish Supply Chain event annually.

Action – Mr Wallace to liaise with NDA colleagues and pass on information on the next Scottish Supply Chain event to Site Steering Group members.

Ms Holmes congratulated the station on the defueling work done to date and also all the work on the site transition. She asked if the blueprint would be shared with Site Steering Group members or be available publicly and when this might be. Mr Struthers replied that he is keen to get enough information to share with Site Stakeholder Group members but was unable to provide a timescale and would update as and when he could. Mr Hamilton added that EDF is working with the Magnox Future Missions Team on the Plan and the blueprint informs what needs to be done, with the detail to come after.

Ms Holmes asked if there would be consultation to give the public a view on the actions. Ms McCall responded that the blueprint is a Programme document which sets out an agreed vision and work is underway to establish how to get there. The blueprint is an internal document looking at people, process and plant, as this is a huge project with many strands. It covers things like IT systems and what plant will need to be removed. She advised that a second round of consultation on the decommissioning programme was likely later in the year. Mr Struthers undertook to keep updating reports and provide presentations, as and when appropriate.

Public Forum

Member of the Public B was concerned at information provided by previous management of the station on keyway root cracks which were reported as a few when there were hundreds. They were also concerned that the Local Resilience Team seemed not to know that Cumbrae is not on the mainland. They referred to the counter terrorism exercise overseen by ONR being 'adequate' and thought that excellent, good, satisfactory etc would be more helpful. They were disappointed with Scottish Government's description of 'near site' which they believed to mean 'on site'. They suggested that the Scottish Government talks about Intermediate Level Waste (ILW) not Higher Activity Waste (HAW). They asked about spent fuel rods and why they are at Hunterston A and not Sellafield when they are decayed. Member of the Public B asked that it be formally recorded that it is not good enough to have assumptions and asked that Chairs of Site Stakeholder Group meetings seek to progress that Local Authorities are contacted about any events and all accidents and not just safety and security issues.

5. Hunterston A Site Reports

Hunterston A Report – Mr Mark Blackley

The report issued with meeting papers was taken as read. Mr Blackley was pleased to see the NDA's draft Business Plan, issued for consultation in December 2022, which gives timescales for sites. Site specific strategies are being developed and timeframes depend on opportunities and constraints, with Hunterston A's date being changed to 2050s. This reflects the uncertainties of decommissioning but is a step forward.

There have been no radiological or security issues. Mr Blackley had highlighted defects in the ventilation systems at the last meeting. Following an inspection by SEPA, the site received a warning letter and a further warning letter has been received in respect of air conditioning systems. A six month F-gas leak test had been arranged but was delayed due to the contractor being ill, which took the site over the six month limit by the time it was undertaken. No defects were found but the site will undertake checks earlier in future to allow for circumstances like this in future. Repairs have been undertaken to the vent extraction system of the Low Level Waste (LLW) processing facility prior to being returned to service. A drain line from the stack was connected directly to a local storm down drainpipe. The drain line has been cut and a pipe fitted. It is likely that this was the original design from 20+ years ago but this is being investigated.

The site has received a joint statement from regulators, SEPA and ONR, on the grouting of bunker

waste. This states that 'SEPA will advise Magnox that, if it wishes to proceed with submitting an application to vary its permit to authorise gaseous discharges from the SILWE stack, that it does so for the purposes of encapsulation of the waste from Bunker 1 only'. SEPA wants to assess the characterisation that was done for the Bunker waste before it makes any decision about grouting of waste from Bunkers 2 – 5. This joint Regulatory Statement is welcomed by Magnox since it gives clarity on a way forward with this issue.

Accident and emergency contingency arrangements were demonstrated to ONR in December and graded 'adequate', which is standard ONR terminology.

Under Solid Active Waste Bunker Retrieval (SAWBR) delivery, 281 boxes have been exported from bunker 1 to the ILW store, bringing the total to 1,174. The site had anticipated that Bunker 1 would have been emptied by now but there was more waste than anticipated and some technical issues. The expected completion date is now March-April 2023. The Solid Intermediate Level Waste Encapsulation (SILWE) plant has experienced robot issues, which the contractor is addressing. The reactor roof project has recommenced and roof repairs are expected to be completed by October. The site's two 11kv transformers are being replaced. Work on North Ayrshire's Future Skills Hub at Kilwinning Campus which received NDA / Magnox Socio Economic funding is progressing well and expected to be completed by September.

SEPA Report –

The report from SEPA, included in the meeting papers, was taken as read. Ms Hayes was not present at the meeting and Mr Hammond offered to take back any questions.

ONR Report –

The ONR report for October - December 2022 issued with the meeting papers was taken as read. Mr Fannin had sent apologies as he was unable to attend the meeting.

Members Question and Answer Session and Public Forum

Member of the Public C has been a resident of Fairlie for 50 years and learned during the recent consultation that the reactor building at Hunterston B station should never be covered by cladding such as that on Hunterston A site. They considered the cladding to be an eyesore and the public was told by Magnox in 2017 that this would be temporary. Permission for the cladding was granted by North Ayrshire Council and Elected Members chose grey as the colour in 2017. In 2018, Member of the Public C received a letter from Mr John Grierson assuring him that Magnox acknowledged the concerns of local residents and was keen to identify a suitable solution. In February 2020, the Member of the Public received a letter saying that an acceptable solution was being implemented. It is now 2023 and the position remains the same. They came to the meeting in person to ask Magnox when the blot on the Clyde's landscape would be removed. Mr Blackley advised that he had provided a response at the last meeting on the latest position with the cladding. Mr Blackley confirmed that representatives of North Ayrshire Council had been on site in January 2022 to discuss this and hear about the potential change in care and maintenance strategy. They asked to be kept informed and Mr Blackley confirmed that the site is in regular dialogue with North Ayrshire Council, pending a decision by UK Government on the potential change in strategy, away from care and maintenance. This is now in the NDA's draft Business Plan and the Decommissioning Programmes Team has started the optioneering process to replace the temporary weather barrier with something more suitable for the timeframe. Mr Blackley undertook to update Site Steering Group members and Member of the Public C personally. Member of the Public C asked if there was any prospect of this being addressed in the near future. Mr Blackley was unable to respond to this as it depends on the results of the optioneering. Ms Holmes added that there would be no point in having a permanent barrier if it will be deconstructed.

Mr Blackley clarified that the existing barrier will have to be replaced somehow. He confirmed that Magnox will consult again on colour, at the appropriate time. Member of the Public C was concerned that the grey colour had been selected in 2017 and five years later, nothing has happened. Mr Hamilton added that Magnox is working under the NDA. The NDA has changed the strategy and therefore grey plates are no longer appropriate. This is not because nothing has happened, but because something has happened, by way of a change in strategy. He understood the frustration of local residents and it is unfortunate that Hunterston cladding has been caught up in the change of strategy, however the reactor buildings will be gone quicker with the new strategy than it would have been in the original strategy.

He asked residents to bear with Magnox and assured them that the Company would do what it could to resolve the colour. Mr Lamb noted that he asked at the September Site Stakeholder Group meeting if the planning permission had expired. He asked if it had been renewed and, if not, if the planning process would have to be gone through again. Mr Blackley responded that the site has been in contact with North Ayrshire Council planners and will keep them informed when there is clarity on the way forward.

Mr Lamb asked if there would be partial delamination on the reactor roof remedial work. Mr Blackley advised that the covering is coming apart from the framework and it is not a case of simple recoating but reconnecting the framework with the roof membrane. Mr Lamb asked what material this was and was informed that it is fabric. Mr Lamb asked if this was weather or age related. Mr Blackley considered that it was most likely weather related as fixings are also corroded.

Mr McHenery noted that there are so many variables on what can be done and when, and asked if the optioneering is looking at different scenarios. Mr Blackley clarified that optioneering is looking at a forward programme of work and access required to buildings. The option chosen will have to facilitate decommissioning. He added that even if the optioneering does decide on membrane, the existing one will have to be replaced. He added that it is regularly inspected and is in good condition. Mr McHenery asked if it would be removed at the end of its predicted manufacture life. Mr Blackley replied that it would depend on degradation and not just an expiry date.

Mr Black was confused about the NDA's Business Plan and felt that it did not demonstrate a clear way forward. Mr Hamilton responded that it is very clear. The NDA has a strategy document. Previously the strategy was for care and maintenance, which means walking away for half a century. A change in strategy has been announced in the latest draft NDA Business Plan, on which work on the practical implementation has been going on for two years. The NDA wants to implement a new strategy, which is the establishment of a continuous programme of decommissioning. The range of dates for this for all sites is in the draft Business Plan. Before the launch of the draft Strategy in December 2022, no meaningful dates could have been given. It is now known that Hunterston will work towards full decommissioning in the 2050 decade. He noted that Hunterston SSG's Chair has lobbied for years for Hunterston to be at the front of the queue. Mr Hamilton confirmed that Hunterston is at the front, behind Trawsfynydd (the lead and learn site) which will be fully decommissioned in the 2040 decade. He stressed that there are many complex, multi-faceted decisions to be made on skills, staff and finances and he understood that this is complex and frustrating but considered that the position had moved forward a lot, perhaps to the detriment of the cladding, but there was now a site specific strategy in place. Mr Black disagreed that the Business Plan gave dates clearly in the document and could not see any mention of optioneering in the key activities. He was concerned that this would just keep rolling forward and the site would be in the same position in another three years. Mr Black did not think that there were enough assurances. Ms Holmes noted that this is high hazard, dangerous work. She had every faith in Hunterston A and B stations and in Magnox and the NDA.

Mr Wallace added that the NDA's Strategy 4 is long-term, 2030-2050. The Business Plan covers the next 3-4 years. The NDA's Chief Executive Officer has asked the same questions. There are a lot of unknowns and challenges. A programme of continuous decommissioning could be expensive but is logical so as not to lose vital skills. It is also important for communities, the skills agenda and the supply chain and will eventually save money. It also has to be site specific. There is a commitment to NDA Strategy 4 in the Rolling Programme for Government.

On the skills agenda, Mr McGhie commented that he and the Chair attends monthly meetings with Mr Blackley, which are open, honest and informative. Recruitment has been ongoing and two new apprentices have started. He asked if Hunterston B station should be looking at taking on apprentices now and if EDF and Magnox could look at apprenticeships at Hunterston B. Mr Struthers confirmed that EDF is working with Magnox to look at taking on apprentices at Hunterston and Hinkley.

Mr Marshall suggested that the Site Stakeholder Group feeds back to the NDA that there should be an explanation of why the dates have changed for someone reading the Business Plan. Mr Hamilton replied that there is some explanation in the Business Plan of the different factors taken into account and a table of all dates with text.

Ms Holmes asked if there had been any decision from SEPA on the fuel debris rods. Mr Blackley explained that 1¹/₃ fuel element have very low radiation levels. This is lower than some things in the bunkers but is uranium so there is ongoing discussion on the treatment and there has not yet been a conclusion. The options are to keep in a safe store at Hunterston or in a safe store at Sellafield.

6. Update from NDA – Mr David Wallace

The NDA report circulated with the meeting papers was taken as read. Mr Wallace updated on key points. The UK Government has confirmed a number of new appointments. Grant Shapps is Secretary of State for Department of Energy Security and Net Zero (DESNZ). Graham Stuart was previously Minister for NDA Group, this is now Scottish MP, Andrew Bowie. Ministers have been appointed for Energy Consumers / Affordability / Energy Efficiency / Green Finance. Mr Wallace thanked everyone who responded to the consultation on the draft NDA Business Plan. Mr Wallace had been asked what will be in the revised Business Plan and undertook to feed back on this.

[Action - Mr Wallace to feed back on the revisions to be included in NDA Business Plan.](#)

With regard to the Chair's request for support on the current consultation of proposals for a revised UK-wide Policy Framework for Nuclear Decommissioning and the Management of Radioactive Substances, Mr Wallace undertook to provide support off-line if required.

The NDA is keen to focus on the things that it is not getting right through its Stakeholder Survey and Summit. It is looking at holding regional events, not just national. The Scottish event will be held on 28 June in University of Strathclyde's Technology and Innovation Centre in Glasgow. An event in West Cumbria will be on 8 June and similar events will be held in Bangor and Bristol. Regional events will be face-to-face, with the UK national summit held online.

The secondment of Laura Hogg to the Scottish Government ended in December but discussions are taking place for another one year secondment. A suitable person has been identified but approval is awaited. The NDA found the secondment process very valuable and is keen to do this. Ms Hogg is back within the NDA but still has strong working links with Scottish Government.

7. Update from Magnox – Mr Bill Hamilton

Mr Hamilton reported that the new Site Stakeholder Group website had been launched that week. The website will contain a calendar of events, meeting dates and meeting papers, biographies of



Chairs and Vice-Chairs, etc and questions can also be asked via the website. This is a way of widening engagement, particularly with young people, and being more inclusive in communities.

Magnox is changing quite dramatically, with Dounreay joining the Magnox estate at the end of March. As previously advised, 12 sites will become 20+, 3,000 staff will become over 6,000 and the £500million budget will increase to £1billion+. The Magnox name will change and a new brand will be launched in October. Stakeholders and Site Stakeholder Groups will be sounded out in advance of this. Magnox has just agreed with North Ayrshire Council a contribution of £16,600 from an NDA-wide programme of emergency support to communities to ease the cost of living crisis, through the Fairer Food Network.

8. Update from Scottish Government –

The Scottish Government's report was included in the meeting papers and taken as read. Ms Hamilton was not present at the meeting.

Members Question and Answer Session and Public Forum

Member of the Public B referred to the UK Government's Public Accounts Committee and was outraged at spiralling costs. They noted concerns of the public regarding safety if costs have to be reduced. They referred to an article in the media on Chernobyl where dismantling was pushed from the inside. They were encouraged by the acceleration of technology and more assured that it is not just about saving money.

9. Any Other Business

Member of the Public B registered their concern that there were no North Ayrshire Councillors present at the meeting which they regarded as disrespectful. The Chair clarified that the Site Stakeholder meeting clashed with a Council budget meeting.

10. Next Meeting – Thursday 1 June 2023

The next meeting will take place on Thursday 1 June 2023. Meeting dates for the remainder of 2023 are Thursday 14 September and Thursday 7 December 2023.

The Chair thanked everyone for attending the meeting and brought it to a close at 3.18 pm.

Actions from Hunterston SSG – 2 March 2023

Action – Ms Adamson to provide further information on what would be released from Hunterston B

Response - A release of any radioactivity from our spent fuel flasks during transport is extremely unlikely given the robustness of the flasks used. They are made of single-forged steel, weigh 53 tonnes and have walls that are at least 39 centimetres thick. They comply with stringent regulator standards which include drop tests as well as being able to withstand fire and water pressure. Before the flasks leave site rigorous checks are carried out to ensure they are properly cleaned and sealed. Nuclear fuel has been transported by rail since 1962 and has travelled more than 12 million miles without any radiological release. In 1984 British Energy carried out a test which crashed a diesel engine travelling at almost 100 mph into a fuel flask of the type we still use. The train was destroyed while the flask ended up with just cosmetic damage and is still on display at Heysham power station. You can view this test for yourself on You Tube.

In the unlikely event of a flask breach, the Fire Brigade will set up a cordon to keep members of the public away and the national arrangements (RADSAFE) would be invoked to provide advice to the fire brigade to protect the public and their personnel. Any radionuclides released would be a mix of nuclides with half-life greater than 40 days (e.g. Caesium-137, Strontium-90). As Hunterston B has already been offline for more than a year, radionuclides with shorter half-lives would have decayed (e.g. Iodine-131).

It should be noted that flasks are escorted on leaving site with Radiation Protection personnel who have the capability of taking readings immediately and, as such, would provide immediate support to the Fire Brigade and Police. Once loaded it is then transported via the rail system and national emergency arrangements are in place for the entire journey. If an event were to occur, the area would be made safe by the Emergency Services and a local Radiation Protection Professional would attend to provide advice until the consigning organisation can take over and recover the situation.

Action – Mr Struthers reiterated that there had been no change to the leak and undertook to provide further information on this.

Response - The rate of the leak is regularly tracked. Checks are carried out every two weeks and show there has been no change to the rate of the leak which is currently approximately 16 litres per month. The substance, which is a light-coloured lubricant, fully biodegrades within 15 days, so while the small size of the release means tracing the source has been challenging, the impact on the environment is negligible.

Action – Ms Jeffery undertook to provide a response to Mr Black's questions on rail assessment from end to end and secondary monitoring and to consider including this in the Appendix of the Off Site Emergency Plan.

Response - There is a meeting scheduled for 11 May to progress this with ourselves, the site and a colleague from the local authority which hosts Sellafield.

Action - Mr Wallace undertook to ask DRS to draw up an explanation of procedures and/or attend a Site Stakeholder Group meeting to explain these.

Response – Mr Wallace has requested attendance from DRS at next Hunterston SSG Meeting to answer question – he is still awaiting a response back from DRS.

Action – Mr Wallace to liaise with NDA colleagues and pass on information on the next Scottish Supply Chain event to Site Steering Group members.

Response – Details of next Scottish Supply Chain event sent by email on Monday 6 March 2023 to SSG Secretariat, Hunterston SSG Chair and Vice Chair for distribution to SSG members.

Action – Mr Wallace to feed back on the revisions to be included in NDA Business Plan.

Response – Final Business Plan has been issued [Nuclear Decommissioning Authority: Business Plan 2023 to 2026 - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/114444/Nuclear-Decommissioning-Authority-Business-Plan-2023-to-2026-GOV.UK-2023-04-20.pdf) and was issued to SSG Chairs / Vice Chairs on Thursday 20 April 2023.

Site Stakeholder Group

Hunterston B Station Director's Report

Period: February 2023 to April 2023

1. Defueling

Defueling activities at the site are progressing well and the focus is on progressing the operational defueling campaign on Reactor 3 in a safe, reliable and efficient manner.

More than two-thirds of the spent fuel stringers have now been safely removed from Reactor 3 and the average time taken per stringer continues to improve over the reporting period.

To date the station has achieved 100% adherence to the 2023 flasking plan with 47 flasks safely despatched to Sellafield.

Within the reporting period there have been no issues of note.

Over the next period the station will continue to focus on the safe and efficient defueling of Reactor 3 whilst preparing for the commencement of defueling of Reactor 4 which is expected to commence late 2023.

2. Transfer and Deconstruction

Site Transition

Upon completion of defueling, we will seek to adjust our site arrangements to support deconstruction. This will mean a new safety case, emergency arrangements, security arrangements and organisational structure. We are at the early stages of design work in these areas and will carefully work through the steps required to approve any change over the coming years.

Asset Transfer

EDF and Magnox are working together to deliver the safest, most cost-effective solution for decommissioning the UK's Advanced Gas-cooled Reactor (AGR) fleet. This involves a seamless transfer of the site to Magnox after the completion of defueling by EDF. Work continues to develop the scope of work required to enable Transfer in line with the Blueprint as previously communicated. The scoping phase of the project is expected to take until the end of the year. Transfer activities will culminate in an application from Magnox to hold the Site License for Hunterston B which will be assessed and approved by ONR before transfer can take place.

Deconstruction Delivery

Work continues to prepare for deconstruction, which will start following the completion of Defueling. Key focus areas are waste strategy, consents and permission (public consultation) and deplanting and demolition strategy. The overall decommissioning strategy remains 'Early Safestore'. A second round of public consultation on the decommissioning plans for the site is due to take place from 29th May to 11th July 2023 ahead of formal application to the ONR at the end of the year. The round two consultation document contains feedback on views expressed and questions asked during the first round, which was conducted in 2022.

3. Safety and Environment

Station Industrial Safety Performance

Safety performance during the reporting period has been good and our Total Recordable Incident Rate (TRIR) remains at 0.

Team monthly safety meetings continue to be a success and have generated good discussion. Topics have included asbestos and working in high noise areas.

Work to improve workplace transport safety has progressed and an independent consultant has carried out a review of the access road and car park. Recommendations are now being implemented as appropriate. The consultant is now undertaking the same review of the roads and pathways within the site boundary.

A recent incident occurred when a light fitting from the main car park lighting fell to the ground. No injuries or property damage were sustained. The area around each of the car park lights was immediately cordoned off, inspected and the fittings removed as a precautionary measure. A thorough investigation is now taking place.

Radiological Protection

The radiation dose of each worker is assessed individually by an electronic personal dose meter. A computer database keeps records for each worker. Exposure is continuously monitored and ultimately compared with the levels specified in the Ionising Radiations Regulations (2017) which are the UK Health and Safety legislation that applies to work with radiation.

During the reporting period the Collective Radiation Exposure (CRE) was below plan (see table below). Collective doses are pre-planned for each year based on scheduled maintenance, outages and routine operations. A breakdown of dose received is shown below (along with a comparison of relevant dose statistics).

All work is fully reviewed and justified in order to ensure all doses received were ALARP (As Low As Reasonably Practicable). This involves justifying and optimising the dose, as well as remaining within those dose limits.

Differences between the actual and planned dose can be down to a range of factors including changes to the work programme, development of new techniques for carrying out work that will result in a lower dose and the deployment of new equipment. In this case, the reduced work programme resulted in the actual dose being lower than the predicted.

There were no reportable radiological protection events during this reporting period.

Radiation Dose to workers (February 2023 - April 2023)		
Planned collective dose	9.1man.mSv	
Actual collective dose	6.6man.mSv	
	Employee	Contract Partner
Total Dose	5.55man.mSv	1.08man.mSv

Average individual dose	0.017mSv	0.005mSv
Highest individual dose	0.650mSv	0.211mSv
Individuals	331	209

Chest X-ray	Transatlantic Flight	CT scan	Average UK annual dose to public	EDF Energy Dose Restriction Level	UK legal dose limit for radiation workers
0.014mSv	0.08mSv	2.0mSv	2.6mSv	10mSv	20mSv

Explanatory notes:

- mSv: milliSieverts (SI unit of dose received by an individual)
- man.mSv: The collective dose for a group of workers (i.e. the total of the doses received by each member of a group).

Environmental Safety

There have been no significant environmental events in the period February 2023 to April 2023.

A formal site process was used to review the existing low level leak of insulating fluid from the Transformer 3 cable. The insulation fluid is light, clear and fully biodegrades within 15 days. Attempts to identify the leak site, have been unsuccessful, due the leak rate being too low to detect (approximately 16 litres a month). Regular checks are showing no change to the rate of the leak but if the rate increases to a point where the tracer can be detected, further investigation will be carried out. SEPA have been kept fully informed.

Radioactive gaseous and aqueous discharges arising from normal plant operations in defueling remain at levels well below those authorised by SEPA. There was a minor reporting anomaly with the gaseous discharges in the report for January 2023. This was observed in a timely manner and corrected prior to the February report being issued. SEPA were satisfied with the investigation and rectification of this anomaly.

The programme of off-site environmental monitoring and radiation surveys in the district has continued throughout the period and demonstrates that the radiological discharges from the station have a negligible impact on the local environment. Reports are provided monthly and quarterly to SEPA, detailing the samples and results of analysis performed.

Work to process and package solid low level wastes has continued in the period as part of normal operations and consignments have been made to our regular partners.

Emergency Arrangements

There have been no issues with the emergency arrangements during this reporting period. Hunterston B continues to work closely with fleet Emergency Preparedness Group as the lead defueling site.

During the reporting period we have commenced our 2023 shift exercise season which has allowed our existing role holders and trainees to exercise their roles in defueling and

conventional hazard based scenarios. This has helped to facilitate our role succession plan, with several role holders achieving authorisation over the last month.

The 2023 exercise plan contains a second exercise season in the autumn. This will further increase the opportunity for training and authorisations prior to our demonstration exercises later in the year.

As a company we continue to look to optimise our emergency arrangements in line with the risk profile of the station.

4. People

The start of 2023 has seen various activities with regards to our people at Hunterston. A Transfer People Plan has been developed outlining key dates and milestones in preparing our people for Transfer. This plan has been communicated to staff by the Station Director during 'All Staff' sessions. Two key elements for Q1 have been to deliver Leaders Forums and Aspirational Conversations.

Leaders Forums took place over in February. Approximately 50 leaders and Trade Union reps attended a session in the People Hub. A member of the management team led each of the 1-hour long sessions. The purpose was to speak with as many leaders as possible to gain an understanding of what training and support they require as we progress towards Transfer. There was good engagement and positive feedback with leaders saying they liked the environment, format and opportunity to ask questions and gain more knowledge. There was also good discussion on the Transfer People Plan.

Another round of informal Aspirational Conversations has been taking place in April/May. Each employee has been having an informal aspirational conversation with their line manager and employees' preferences are being recorded. The conversations will be analysed and key themes shared. The analysis helps to inform the resource planning for Hunterston B.

Monthly meetings continue to take place between the station and ONR to ensure a regular dialogue on all department and resource changes on station as it progresses with Defueling and prepares for Transfer. All change is managed in accordance with License Condition 36 and the associated management of change process. HR processes such as Management of Change, succession management and employee engagement were shared and discussed at a recent meeting with ONR and positive feedback was received.

The Station has been using a company called Origin Financial Services to run courses for those due to leave via redundancy, and feedback has been positive from those who have attended. Financial clinics have been open to all staff and will run one day per month during 2023. Support for employees leaving the business through redundancy continues to be provided onsite and from our redeployment team.

5. Company Update

New Managing Director for EDF's Generation Business

Dr Mark Hartley was appointed Managing Director for Generation in April 2023 following the retirement of Matt Sykes after 43 years in the energy industry.



Mark joined the industry in 1997, with responsibility for graphite safety cases and plant inspection, leading a number of engineering areas and recovery projects, before being appointed Head of Design Authority.

Mark has since held a number of executive positions within the UK Nuclear Generation Business, including Chief Nuclear Officer, responsible for all operations in half the UK's existing nuclear fleet, before then joining Hinkley Point C as Technical Director and then interim Managing Director of Sizewell C.

Mark holds a doctorate in mechanical properties of graphite and lives in Cheltenham with his family.

EDF confirms plans to keep turbines turning at Heysham 1 and Hartlepool power stations



- **Heysham 1** and **Hartlepool** are forecast to generate zero-carbon electricity for 2 years longer, supporting energy security, reducing demand for imported gas and lowering carbon emissions
- EDF has already invested over £7billion in the UK nuclear fleet since 2009 to extend the generating lifetimes of the existing fleet, delivering over 30% more output than originally forecast
- Keeping the existing stations generating

longer also helps preserve vital nuclear skills as the UK aims to rebuild its civil nuclear capacity

Two nuclear power stations in the North of England are expected to keep generating zero-carbon electricity for longer, helping deliver more energy security for the UK.

Heysham 1, in Lancashire, and Hartlepool, in Teesside both mark 40 years of generation this year. In 2009, when EDF took responsibility for the fleet, they were due to end generation in 2014. EDF invested significant resources to enable the forecast to move to 2024. This has now been moved out by a further 2 years to March 2026.

The decision has been made after a rigorous review by EDF of the technical and commercial cases for life extension.

In particular, positive inspections of the graphite reactor cores during 2022 have increased confidence that the stations can generate for longer and continue to meet stringent regulatory standards.

Matt Sykes, Managing Director of EDF's Generation business said: "Supplying zero-carbon and affordable electricity, whatever the weather, has never been more important than right now. Our ongoing investment and careful stewardship of the UK nuclear fleet since 2009

has allowed us to make today's decision and helps support the UK's energy security at this challenging time.

“As well as helping the UK reduce its use of imported gas, it is also great news for the 2,000 skilled people whose jobs are supported by these sites and will help preserve valuable technical and operational skills that will be critical as the UK seeks to re-build its nuclear capability.”

The additional 29TWh of electricity these stations could generate over that 2-year period could help to displace 6billion cubic metres of gas. The carbon avoided from this displacement is 10million tonnes, like taking 5m cars off the UK's roads for a year.

Since taking responsibility for the existing UK nuclear fleet in 2009 EDF has invested more than £7billion to support extended operating lifetimes and help UK energy security. Output from the fleet has been more than 30% above what was expected when EDF took on the fleet. Over the next five years (2023-27), the aim is to invest more than £1.5billion to sustain safe and reliable generation, alongside preparing for and delivering defueling.

Hinkley Point C announces 30,000 new training places

Hinkley Point C has announced 30,000 new training places between now and the power station's completion, helping local people to join the project as it hits peak construction.

Trainees will be able to upgrade their skills and earning potential by joining the work to fit miles of pipes, cables, equipment, and control systems. The opportunities have been made possible by Hinkley Point C's £24 million investment into education, skills, and employment, including at three new Centres for Excellence in welding, electrical and mechanical skills.

Courses will be available in in-demand skills such as electrical work, welding, steelwork, and pipe installation. The training centres will become part of Hinkley Point C's legacy, available for local and national businesses to enrol their own employees, which will help to strengthen the region's industrial capability.

Today's figure was released in [Hinkley Point C's 2023 Socio-Economic Impact Report](#), which shows that:

- Spending in South-West has topped £5.3 billion with 1,300 companies
- Investment in local infrastructure and community support has reached £139 million
- Grants to fund local projects has hit £14.5 million
- 1,130 apprentices have been trained so far

Hinkley Point C's contracts are also supporting and creating thousands of jobs across Britain. For example, in Scotland, 135 businesses are supporting the project's supply chain, and these contracts are worth £238m to date, with an average spend of £1.7m.

SUSI-Eelpower and EDF bring North Scotland's first 50MW battery into commercial operation

- First 50 MW battery on the North of Scotland distribution network
- One of the two largest operational Battery Energy Storage sites in Scotland
- Instrumental in enabling increased integration of intermittent renewable energy and particularly Scotland's substantial offshore wind capacity

Earlier this month, SUSI-Eelpower, a joint venture between SUSI Partners and Eelpower dedicated to deploying large-scale battery energy storage assets in the UK, brought online the largest standalone operational battery storage in Scotland. The battery is located in Dundee and has a capacity of 50MW.

SUSI-Eelpower has selected EDF, a leading provider of battery optimisation and trading services in the UK, as trading and optimisation partner. EDF will provide market access and optimise operations via their market leading trading platform across all available revenue streams including balancing mechanism, trading, and ancillary services.

The Dunsinane battery energy storage site will play an important role in decarbonising energy by providing balancing services to National Grid which will allow the integration of greater levels of renewable generation.

Scotland is home to 60% of the UK's offshore wind capacity which creates a challenge for National Grid given the intermittent nature of this resource. Large scale battery energy storage sites such as Dunsinane allow the wind energy to be stored and used in times of peak demand for the benefit of Scottish homes and businesses.

6. Contacts

For more information about anything in this report or other station issues, contact:

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Office for
Nuclear Regulation

ONR Site Report

Hunterston B

ONR Site Report

Hunterston B

Report for period: 1 January – 31 March 2023

Authored by: S Fannin, Nominated Site Inspector

Approved by: I Bramwell, Delivery Lead Operating Reactors

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Foreword

This report is issued as part of ONR's commitment to make information about inspection and regulatory activities relating to the above site available to the public. Reports are distributed to members for the Hunterston Site Stakeholder Group and are also available on the ONR website (<http://www.onr.org.uk/lrc/>).

Site inspectors from ONR usually attend Hunterston Site Stakeholder Group meetings where these reports are presented and will respond to any questions raised there. Any person wishing to inquire about matters covered by this report should contact ONR.

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1. Inspections

1.1. Date(s) of Inspection

The ONR site inspector and specialist inspectors made inspections on the following dates during the report period 1 October – 31 December 2022

17, 19 January 2023

21 – 23 February 2023

14 – 16 March 2023

The ONR site security inspector made inspections on the following dates:

14 – 15 March 2023

2. Routine Matters

2.1. Inspections

Inspections are undertaken as part of the process for monitoring compliance with:

- the conditions attached by ONR to the nuclear site licence granted under the Nuclear Installations Act 1965 (NIA65) (as amended);
- the Energy Act 2013;
- the Health and Safety at Work etc Act 1974 (HSWA74); and
- regulations made under HSWA74, for example the Ionising Radiations Regulations 2017 (IRR17) and the Management of Health and Safety at Work Regulations 1999 (MHSWR99);
- The Fire (Scotland) Act 2005;
- The Nuclear Industries Security Regulations (NISR) 2003, and;
- The Nuclear Safeguards (EU Exit) Regulations 2019 (NSR19).

The inspections entail monitoring the licensee's actions on the site in relation to incidents, operations, maintenance, projects, modifications, safety case changes and any other matters that may affect safety. The licensee is required to make and implement adequate arrangements under the conditions attached to the licence in order to ensure legal compliance. Inspections seek to judge both the adequacy of these arrangements and their implementation.

In this period, routine inspections of (Hunterston B) covered the following:

- accumulation of radioactive waste;
- incidents on the site;
- security.

Accumulation of radioactive waste - On 21 February, the site and specialist inspectors carried out an inspection of the programme of work to specify and then build an operational waste processing facility (OWPF) for management of intermediate level wastes (ILW). The EDF programme to manage the accumulation of radioactive waste at HNB is at the early development stage and some areas were identified where further engagement with ONR and SEPA is required to confirm that regulatory expectations for control of ILW will be achieved. The inspection was rated Green, (no formal action) and a regulatory issue will be raised to track progress against the regulatory expectations.

Incidents on the site - On 22 February the site inspector carried out an inspection of the implementation of the arrangements for licence condition 7 and other associated EDF organisational learning (OL) processes. The inspection confirmed that adequate personnel continue to support the OL process and a sample of events confirmed that events are appropriately categorised and investigated. Some areas for improvement were identified; particularly a greater degree of learning could be extracted from some events and consideration of extent of condition for some defects and faults. The inspector was satisfied with the level of oversight and priority given to completion of corrective actions by the station review board. The inspection therefore was rated Green (no formal action).

Security – On the 14 and 15 March, the site security inspector carried out an inspection on the patrolling arrangements for security protected plant. Some areas for improvement were identified but the site arrangements were judged to be adequate with evidence of efficient and relevant collaboration between departments. The inspection was rated Green, (no formal action).

Annual review of safety, security and environment (AROSSE) – On the 15 March 2023, the site and superintending inspectors attended the AROSSE meeting for the post shutdown period. ONR agreed that the station had presented a balanced view of performance over a period of significant change. ONR did not identify significant signs of complacency during the initial defuelling period and noted the station was in a strong position to use the skills of the staff to deliver on the deconstruction phase of operations.

Members of the public, who would like further information on ONR's inspection activities during the reporting period, can view site Intervention Reports at www.onr.org.uk/intervention-records on our website www.onr.org.uk.

Should you have any queries regarding our inspection activities, please email contact@onr.gov.uk. Other Work:

The site inspector holds periodic meetings with safety representatives to support their function of representing employees and receiving information on matters affecting their health, safety and welfare at work.

3. Non-Routine Matters

Licensees are required to have arrangements to respond to non-routine matters and events. ONR inspectors judge the adequacy of the licensee's response, including actions taken to implement any necessary improvements.

Matters and events of particular note during the period were:

There were no events that met the formal ONR reporting criteria or other events of significance.

4. Regulatory Activity

ONR may issue formal documents to ensure compliance with regulatory requirements. Under nuclear site licence conditions, ONR issues regulatory documents, which either permit an activity or require some form of action to be taken; these are usually collectively termed 'Licence Instruments' (LIs) but can take other forms. In addition, inspectors may take a range of enforcement actions, to include issuing an enforcement notice.

No LIs, enforcement notices or enforcement letters were issued during this period.

5. News from ONR

For the latest news and information from ONR, please read and subscribe to our regular email newsletter 'ONR News' at www.onr.org.uk/onrnews.

6. Contacts

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Hunterston Site Stakeholder Group

SEPA Update- Hunterston B

1 June 2023

Regulation

Environmental Authorisations (Scotland) Regulations 2018 (EASR)- radioactive substances

We have continued telephone communication with the station throughout the period, including formal weekly call-downs with the station's Environmental Safety Group and corporate Generation Environment Management as well as monthly updates from the EDF internal regulator on site. We have also attended routine meetings with corporate EDF, Magnox, ONR and EA on strategic issues, including defueling, transfer and decommissioning.

Site Inspection

We have visited the station twice since the last SSG meeting. On 15 March 2023, SEPA staff attended the Annual Review of Safety as well as a meeting with the station and ONR to discuss the optioneering undertaken on the proposed Operational Waste Processing Facility (OWPF).

On 19 April 2023, SEPA carried out an inspection focusing on the production of the monthly gaseous discharge return following on from the station reporting an error in the January 2023 gaseous discharge return. The inspection revealed that the error appeared to be due to the requirement for human intervention to update the relevant spreadsheets for each new calendar year. The station had taken remedial actions to prevent a recurrence and has updated the January 2023 gaseous return to correctly reflect the gaseous discharges for that month. SEPA has taken no further action on this misreporting due to the prompt action by the station, including informing SEPA, and the minor nature of the error. No further contraventions were identified. A meeting with the station and ONR was also held to further discuss the optioneering on the OWPF.

The station will be visited again on 17 May 2023 in order to follow up on a number of items that couldn't be accommodated in the previous inspection due to time constraints and to receive an update on the progress of the Intermediate Level Waste aspects of the station's decommissioning plan. A verbal update of the outcome of this inspection will be given at the meeting.

Pollution Prevention and Control (PPC)

We have been monitoring the station's actions to locate and repair the small non-radioactive leak from an oil-filled cable onsite. Otherwise, there have been no issues relating to the station's PPC permit for its non-radioactive emissions from the emergency diesel generators, auxiliary boilers and waste oil burner since the last scheduled SSG meeting.

Control of Major Accidents and Hazards (COMAH)

There have been no issues related to COMAH since the last scheduled SSG meeting.

Controlled Activities Regulations (CAR)

There have been no other issues relating to the stations' non-radioactive liquid discharges to the water environment since the last scheduled SSG meeting.

UK Emissions Trading Scheme (ETS)

There have been no issues relating to the ETS since the last scheduled SSG meeting.

Environmental Events

There were no reportable incidents, complaints or non-compliance events affecting SEPA's interests at either site known to have occurred since the last meeting of the SSG at the time of writing this report.

Radioactivity in Food & the Environment (RIFE)

RIFE is a collaborative report on work carried out by SEPA, the other UK environment agencies, Food Standards Scotland and Food Standards Agency on the radiological monitoring of food and the environment. The RIFE reports aim to provide an in-depth assessment of radioactivity in food and the environment in the UK and the public's exposure to radiation, including in the vicinity of Hunterston B. The RIFE report incorporates the results from the analysis of a wide range of samples and key information on local habits to demonstrate both that food remains safe and that the public's exposure to ionising radiation is within legal limits.

The latest edition (RIFE 27) covering 2021 has been published and can be obtained from SEPA's website along with previous year's reports. RIFE 27 reports that the total dose for the representative person (most exposed) around the Hunterston site, which includes both Hunterston A and Hunterston B, for 2021 was 0.006 millisieverts, which is well below the legal annual dose limit of 1 millisievert as set out in paragraph 26, Schedule 8 of EASR18.

Scottish Pollutant Release Inventory (SPRI)

The Scottish Pollutant Release Inventory (SPRI) is a publicly accessible electronic database of releases of pollutants to all environmental media and transfers of non-radioactive waste. We intend that, as far as practicable, SPRI be the principle means by which information on Scottish pollutant releases and non-radioactive waste transfers is collected and made public. Wherever possible, such information will be collected and presented by this one system. The data for 2021, including that from Hunterston A and B, have been published and are available on SEPA's website under "*Environment/Environmental data/SPRI*".

Cyber-Attack

SEPA continue to update our service status on a regular basis so that we're clear on what those we work with can expect and how we'll prioritise progress. The latest update is available on SEPA's website (www.sepa.org.uk).

Mr Keith Hammond

Radioactive Substances Specialist/*Speisealach Stuthan Reidio-beo*

16/05/2023



HUNTERSTON A

SITE STAKEHOLDER GROUP REPORT

SITE DIRECTOR – MARK BLACKLEY

JUNE 2023

HUNTERSTON A
SITE DIRECTOR'S REPORT TO THE SITE STAKEHOLDER GROUP
JUNE 2023

Hunterston A continues to address the nuclear liabilities at Hunterston A in a safe, secure manner with care for the environment.

1 SITE DIRECTOR OVERVIEW

There were no significant new Nuclear, Radiological, Environmental or Security issues over the reporting period.

Unfortunately, the Site has experienced two conventional safety events during March and April. On Wednesday 15 March at 00:15hrs a fire broke out in a changing/showering facility in the Radiological Controlled Area (RCA). No radioactive materials were present in the facility. The Site Silent Hours Contingency Arrangements were initiated, and Scottish Fire & Rescue (SF&R) were called to site. The fire self-extinguished and SF&R declared that the fire was extinguished at 02:00 hours. There was no risk to life from this fire event. The changing/showering facility was undergoing refurbishment work to fit new showers and flooring. The fire event is under investigation by both Magnox and the Contractor. Temporary changing/showering facilities have been delivered and are being installed. The site does have other small change/showering facilities available, but these can only accommodate small numbers of people.

The other event occurred on Wednesday 5 April. Both reactor buildings are undergoing repairs to roofs to make them watertight. During a period of heavy rain and strong wind conditions Reactor 1 building was impacted by rainwater ingress. For safety reasons the Reactor 1 Power supplies were isolated due to water getting close to live electrical supplies. The power isolation affected other buildings that are supplied by the Distribution boards in Reactor 1.

Both events have had a significant impact on the site. Planned activities and work has been delayed until suitable change/showering facilities are brought into service. The majority of electrical supplies have been restored to Reactor 1 and other buildings.

At previous SSG meetings I reported that further inspections had led to the discovery of a number of defects on ventilation ductwork within buildings and that these defects were subject to Investigation by SEPA in November 2022. Since the last meeting we have received a Final Warning Letter from SEPA regarding these defects on internal ventilation systems. We do not believe that these defects caused harm to the environment or to anyone. Good progress was being made on repairs however progress has been slow since the fire in the changeroom facility has restricted the amount of work we can do in C3 working conditions.

The site will be demonstrating the Accident and Emergency Contingency Arrangements to the Magnox Assurance team on Thursday 25 May.

Progress from March to May in the Solid Active Waste Bunker Retrieval (SAWBR) was limited due to some plant reliability issues and availability of resource to operate the plant, coupled with a reduced rate of processing due to the limited quantity of remaining waste. However, the Project team have safely exported a cumulative total of 294 3M³ boxes from Bunker 1 to the ILW Store, this equates to 171.9 Tonnes of Bunker 1 waste. This brings the total of 3M³ boxes exported from SAWBR (all 5 bunkers) to 1184 Boxes. It is forecast that the bulk retrieval of waste from Bunker 1 should be completed by July 2023 – this has been extended because there is more waste in the bunker than was forecast and because of key resource unavailability and equipment failure.

The project team working on the Acid Reconfiguration in WILWREP have made progress towards achieving the first milestone of starting inactive commissioning by July 2023.

Kuka have now returned to site and continue with preparations for a complete re-run of the SILWE robot system performance demonstrations. This is expected to take place in May 2023.

The reactor roof repair project has recommenced.

The sites two 11kv transformers which have been in service for over 25 years were replaced in February / March.

During 2022/ 23 the Magnox socio-economic scheme allocated £572,540 to communities surrounding the 12 Magnox sites. £53,516 of this was allocated to North Ayrshire.

Good progress in recruitment has been made. We currently have 27 roles in progress. In addition, in the period from March to early May we have had seven new entrants, along with seven supply workers who have taken up Magnox permanent roles. Assessment Centres for our two apprenticeship opportunities are scheduled so that the successful candidates can commence college in August.

More details on some of these highlights are within the appropriate sections of this report.

2 SAFETY OVERVIEW

2.1 Safety Review Performance

Safety performance on Site continues to improve. Six months have passed since the Lost Time Accident (LTA) that occurred in November. The Total Recordable Incident Rate (TRIR) & Day Away Case Rate (DACR) remains at 0.45. The operative who received the injury to his hand has returned to work. During this reporting period, there has been one First Aid Case injury on site. This was an individual who slipped on grit/salt that had been spread on the footpath during cold/freezing conditions. The injury was minor (grazed knee and hand), First aid was delivered, and the individual returned to normal duties.

Unfortunately, the Site has experienced two conventional safety events during March and April. On Wednesday 15 March during Silent hours at 00:15hrs a fire broke out in a changing/showering facility in the Radiological Controlled Area (RCA). The Site Silent Hours Contingency Arrangements were initiated, and Scottish Fire & Rescue (SF&R) were called to site. Five SF&R appliances and crews attended the Site in response to the 999 call, with two appliances entering the site and the others stood down and then sent away. The fire self-extinguished and SF&R declared that the fire was extinguished at 02:00 hours. There were no radioactive materials in the facility. There was no risk to life from this fire event. The changing/showering facility was undergoing refurbishment work to fit new showers and flooring. The fire event is under investigation by both Magnox and the Contractor. The site is now arranging temporary changing/showering facilities to be delivered to site and hope to have them available early May. The site does have other small change/showering facilities available, but these can only accommodate small numbers of people. This resulted in safety and compliance activities being prioritised over other work.

The other event occurred on Wednesday 5 April. Both reactor buildings are undergoing repairs to roofs to make them watertight. During a period of heavy rain and strong wind conditions Reactor 1 building was impacted by rainwater ingress. For safety reasons the Reactor 1 Power supplies were isolated due to water getting close to live electrical supplies. The power isolation has affected other buildings that are supplied by the Distribution boards in Reactor 1. Access to Reactor 1 and other affected buildings was restricted to work activities required to remediate the situation.

Both events have had a significant impact on the site. Planned activities and work has been delayed until suitable change/showering facilities are brought into service. The majority of power supplies have been restored to Reactor 1 and other buildings.

Target Zero campaigns continue to be rolled out. March was '*Work at Height*'; April, was '*What could go wrong today*' and May's subject is '*Wellbeing*'. These campaigns do raise awareness and promote discussion and are proactive in the overall campaign to improve safety, health, environment protection and work life balance.

The sites reporting culture remains strong, with around 100 Q Pulses received each month. We remain as one of the highest producers of Q Pulse reports across the Magnox sites.

The Site Event review meeting is held weekly to screen events, investigations and trending. This meeting is well attended and supported by lead team, managers, team leaders and safety representatives.

The safety representatives (Magnox & Contractor) meet fortnightly and have recently attended the site HESAC meeting and Contractor's Safety Forum. The safety representatives are involved in the site programme of housekeeping tours and ensure a safety representative attends the housekeeping inspections.

Covid 19 is still in circulation but is still not having any significant impact to the day to day running of the site.

2.2 Emergency Arrangements

The site Accident and Emergency Contingency Arrangements are tested frequently. The new Program of Accident and Emergency Contingency Arrangement training exercises is being implemented with training exercises undertaken frequently.

The Contingency arrangements were enacted during the fire event described above. The arrangements were well implemented by the security staff and all others who supported the response. A review was undertaken to establish if there were any learning opportunities to capture that may improve our robust arrangements.

The Site has a new Emergency Preparedness Officer (EPO) who is bringing a wealth of prior knowledge and experience in emergency preparedness to our site. The new postholder will be responsible for maintaining the sites Accident and Emergency Contingency Arrangements in a state of readiness.

The site will be demonstrating the Accident and Emergency Contingency Arrangements to the Magnox Assurance team. This team is made up of independent site inspectors. Exercise "*FairPlay*" will be demonstrated to the inspectors on Thursday 25 May.

The site is seeking volunteers who would be interested in joining the Site Contingency Team (SCT). This is to ensure that we have suitably trained and competent persons available to join the SCT when required. There are members of the SCT who have expressed a desire to retire or stand down from the SCT and give others an opportunity to learn new life skills relating to emergency response and first aid. This will build in contingency to the SCT and ensure we are always fully resourced in this area.

The site has engaged with our external emergency services and have offered to provide familiarisation tours of the site. This has been welcomed by the emergency services and we look forward to providing this. We have also requested support during site training exercises of which Police Scotland have offered to support when required.

3 DECOMMISSIONING PROGRESS

3.1 Solid Active Waste Bunker Retrieval (SAWBR) Project

The SAWBR facility was constructed to recover solid HAW (Higher Activity Waste) from within the site's five HAW bunkers. This is achieved by using remotely operated vehicles (ROV's) to fill hoppers that are then tipped into RWM (Radioactive Waste Management Ltd) approved 3M³ stainless steel boxes. The initial breakthrough into Bunker 5 was achieved in March 2014 and Bunkers 5, 4, 3 and 2 have been sequentially emptied to date.

Progress from March to May was limited due to some plant reliability issues and availability of resource to operate the plant, coupled with a reduced rate of processing due to the limited quantity of remaining waste. This has led to a reduced number of packages exported to the ILW Store over the quarter than expected and subsequent reforecast of Bulk clearance date.

To date, the SAWBR team have safely exported a cumulative total of **294** 3M³ boxes from Bunker 1 to the ILW Store equating to 171.9 Tonnes of Bunker 1 waste.

1184 3M³ boxes have been exported from SAWBR (all 5 bunkers) and it is forecast that the bulk retrieval of waste from Bunker 1 will be completed in July 2023 - which will be a significant milestone for the site.

The plant had a routine planned, maintenance outage which commenced on 1 May for a duration of two weeks, with an expected return to retrievals on 15 May.

Picture opposite of Bunker Waste Recovery Operations showing fuel assy/skip guide and part of the De-splitter machine.



3.2 Wet Intermediate Level Waste Retrieval & Encapsulation Plant (WILWREP)

The WILWREP facility was designed and constructed to recover and encapsulate Intermediate Level Waste (ILW) sludges, resins and acids stored in site tanks. Having completed the first stage of bulk sludge recoveries the plant was being reconfigured to retrieve and encapsulate radioactive Nitric acid before being paused in Summer 2022 due to other site priorities.

WILWREP Acid Reconfiguration

The small project team working on the Acid Reconfiguration have made progress towards achieving the first milestone of reaching DAR 5.1 by July 2023. The Project Execution Plan is now in place allowing the physical works to begin in line with the

project quality plan. All electrical and instrument drawings created by the original project have been installed, checked or corrected and the drawings placed into the Magnox system. The existing test schedules have been checked for functionality and the hydro test pumping system has been converted to ensure successful operations. We intend to carry on with our testing of instrumentation and hydrostatic testing of the equipment until successfully meeting the DAR 5.1 milestone.

During the reporting quarter, the Operations team has continued to consolidate some residual sludge remaining from the first bulk recovery stage within the three Sludge Retention Tanks (SRT) in WILWREP into one tank, to make future retrievals easier. Our final approval to use the Dumper Bot is now with the Engineering Manager for signing. Once this is complete the team will be able to clear the remaining sludge from SRT3, allowing the tank to be declared 'Empty' for the first time in decades. On completion of SRT3 the equipment will be moved to SRT2 to complete the final clearance of that tank.

3.3 Solid Intermediate Level Waste Encapsulation (SILWE) Project

The SILWE facility exists purely to encapsulate the 3M³ packages containing the solid waste retrieved/recovered from SAWBR with a grout mix. It is expected to take up to three years to encapsulate approximately 1500 stainless steel packages. Once encapsulated, the packages will be in their disposable state.

The SILWE Project continue with preparations for the commencement of Phase 2 Commissioning in August of 2023. Following this phase of the project, plant operations will be managed via the SILWE control room.

Kuka have now returned to site and continue with preparations for a complete re-run of the robot system performance demonstrations. This is expected to take place in May 2023.



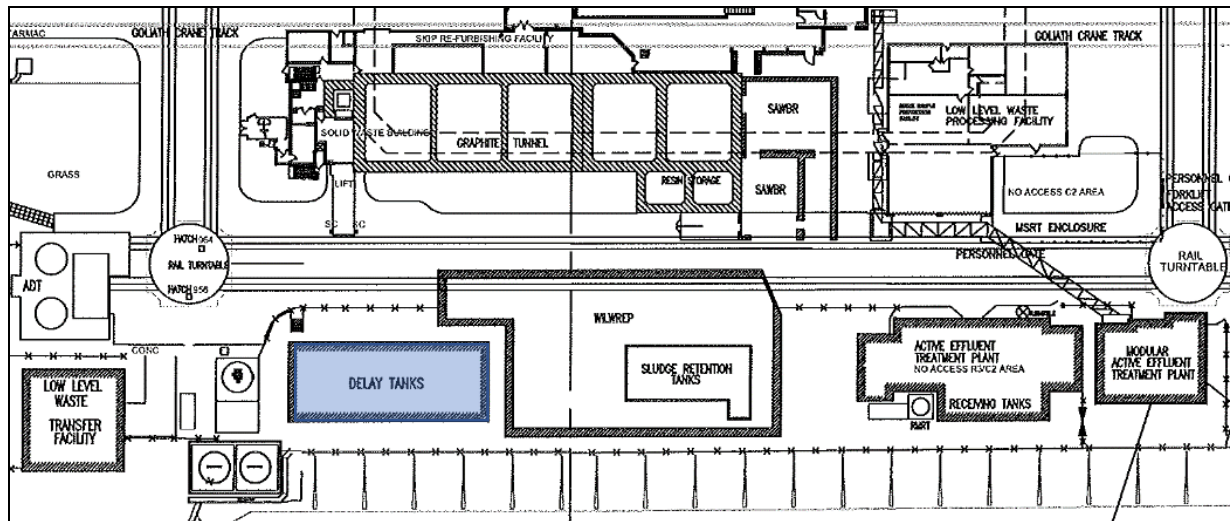
The project plan is to transition into Phase 3 (Inactive Commissioning) in June of 2024, with active commissioning forecast to commence in May of Financial Year 2025.

3.4 Ponds Programme

Cartridge Cooling Pond (CCP) Delay Tanks

The CCP and Miscellaneous Delay Tanks formed part of the site's legacy Active Effluent Treatment Facility and received treated effluent from previously decommissioned effluent treatment plants. The tanks stored treated effluent whilst awaiting planned discharges to sea. Currently the tanks are isolated from historical inlets from the Pond Water Treatment Plant and Active Effluent Treatment plant. They are also de-watered and de-sludged and there is a live project within the pond programme to decontaminate the tanks.

In support of planned decommissioning, the Pond team have carried out a non-invasive radiological survey within the CCP delay tanks to determine contamination levels within the tanks. The results of this survey have now been presented and shall be a key input for the forthcoming Best Practicable Means assessments (BPM's). Notably, the survey results indicate that there is an opportunity to conduct the tank decontamination works using a vastly simplified methodology than originally anticipated and less complex ventilation arrangement. This could reduce the hazards, costs and duration associated with the project and shall be explored to its fullest in the coming months as the design proposal and BPM assessments are developed.



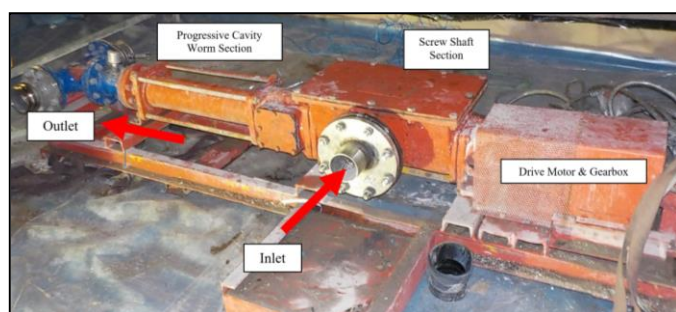
Picture above is Site plan showing redundant delay tanks

Monomix Pump Options Workshop

The Monomix Pump is a progressive cavity pump. During its period of operation, the pump formed part of the equipment used to process sludge and debris removed from the Cartridge Cooling Pond (CCP) floor. As part of the overall process the Monomix Pump transported material from the grout mixer to the sludge conditioning equipment, for discharge into the Pond Purge Pump (PPS).

During operation, the Monomix Pump transported the debris into a boxed casing containing the main pump screw shaft. The majority of debris contained within the sludge and water was driven out through the worm section, however not all debris passed through the pump. A radiological survey has identified elevated dose rates from the Monomix Pump, suspected to be from debris collected within the casing.

Within the reporting period an options workshop was held to help identify a preferred option (or options) for the processing of the high dose rate item in the Monomix Pump to an appropriate waste route at Hunterston A. The workshop was well supported and chaired independently by Abbot Risk Consulting's Head of Nuclear. A report summarising findings and recommendations is due in April which will inform the next stages of this Project.



Typical Monomix pump arrangement

Typical debris collected within worm drive casing

New Effluent Treatment Plant (NEffTP)

The New Effluent Treatment Plant within the Low-Level Waste Transfer Facility was installed and inactively commissioned in April 2022. This system will facilitate the eventual diversion of current miscellaneous effluent streams, which will in turn enable wider decommissioning of site by creating redundancy in the systems and tanks currently still in use.

Since inactive commissioning was completed the Project team have been focused on developing the maintenance schedule and procedural documentation which will facilitate active commissioning. Within the reporting period the entire suite of operator training documentation has been produced and is now published as a course within Magnox's learning and development portal.

On-site preparations continue in support of active commissioning. Within the period vehicle protection barriers have been installed local to the new plant and interface pipework has been procured and installed which will provide connectivity with the miscellaneous effluents bowsers which will feed the plant when in operation.



Picture above of New Effluent Treatment plant within the Low-Level Waste Transfer Facility

3.5 Hunterston Reactor Project / Plant & Structures

Reactor Roof Remedial Works

The Contractor has three roofing squads now working between Reactor 1 and Reactor 2. Despite the challenges with the weather, they remain on track to complete the scope in November 2023 and meet the Magnox Group Key Target (NDA Target for Q3).

Handrails are 95% complete across both reactors and 600m of Sarna bar repairs from the total of 5,000m was carried out in the month of April.



De-planting SRUs

The characterisation works are underway in R2. So far 24 cores of a total of 174 have been taken from primary systems.

Issues have been encountered and overcome by the project with lead paint on the pipework and asbestos.

The lab analysis work is scheduled to start in June after the project receives sanction for the next phase of works.



4 PEOPLE

4.1 Site HR

We have recently received approval for the 2023 Business Plan which outlines our resource plan for 2023/24 which, with the exception of a few new agreed posts, is focussed on maintaining resource levels throughout the next year to ensure we continue to sufficiently resource our priority programme of work within our funding profile.

We currently have 27 roles in progress at various stages of the resourcing process from advertising and interview to offer stage. In addition, in the period from March to early May we have had seven new entrants, along with seven supply workers who have taken up Magnox permanent roles. Assessment Centres for our two apprenticeship opportunities have been scheduled for May, which will allow us to select, offer and onboard the successful candidates in time for them to commence college in August.

We have recently completed a company-wide Employee Engagement Survey. This was launched in late February and employees were encouraged to participate in the survey in order to provide feedback during March. The results are currently being analysed, and once finalised the Hunterston results will be communicated to staff along with a proposed action plan by the Site Director in the coming weeks.

4.2 Occupational Health

Our sickness levels remain higher than the Company average, which is mainly attributable to a number of long term sickness cases over recent months. There has been a slight reduction in these cases recently, and we expect to see this continue over the next few months, with individuals being provided with relevant case management support from Line Management, Occupational Health and HR to allow them to successfully return to work.

The Company, supported by the Hunterston Wellbeing Group, continues to promote various health and wellbeing initiatives, including monthly webinars which most recently have been on the subjects of “Self-Care and avoiding Burnout” and “Imposter Syndrome”. The Target Zero campaign for May will focus on Health and Wellbeing with a focus on a number of different topics through the period. We have also recently introduced a new employee benefit which gives employees easy access to a range of health and wellbeing services via an app that they can download to a mobile phone. This includes access to an annual health check, Digital GP, nutritional consultations, mental health consultations and access to experts who can provide a second opinion on diagnosed health conditions.

5 ASSET MANAGEMENT

To enable safe operation, we proactively review our systems, processes and facilities via our Systems Engineering Department. This enables us to look at future investment requirements to maintain a safe operational status.

The replacement of the Sites two 11kv Transformers, which had been in service for over 25 years has been completed with both new transformers in full service.

Gutter repairs and further building fabric repairs have been carried out to the South Side of the Cartridge Cooling Pond building to alleviate the water ingress issues that have been previously identified in this area.

Planned Welfare improvements were completed, including the RCA Shower facilities which were unfortunately damaged by the fire identified earlier in this report.

Temporary facilities have been delivered to site and are currently being installed and made ready for use.

Planned improvements to line markings on and around site have been delayed following difficulties of the sub-contractor to supply suitable safety information specific to the tasks to be carried out. We are currently progressing engagement of another sub-contractor.

Funds have been allocated to the site to enable us to replace the fire damaged shower facility. This will allow the site to construct a purpose built facility to better meet the needs of the site. The funds also include removal of the now redundant damaged facility which is beyond economic repair.

Progress of this year's work packs has commenced and a portfolio of work packs for 2024/25 and 2025/26 are being developed.

6 RADIOLOGICAL SAFETY

Explanatory note: The maximum permissible dose to a radiation worker in the UK is 20mSv (milliSieverts) in a calendar year. The average annual radiation dose to the UK population from all sources is 2.6mSv. Collective dose is usually measured in man.milliSieverts. For example, if ten people were each to receive 0.1milliSieverts during a particular task, then the collective dose for the task would be 10 people x 0.1mSv each = 1 man.milliSievert.

Doses for the calendar year 2023, to the end of April, are as follows:

- Approximately 189 employees and visitors received a total collective dose of 3.589 man.mSv between them
- Approximately 234 contractors received a total collective dose of 2.261 man.mSv between them
- The highest individual dose received by an employee was 0.321 mSv
- The highest individual dose received by a contractor was 0.233 mSv

The majority of dose accrued in 2023 has been from a combination of the pond decommissioning project and other site projects. All doses in these projects have been prior assessed, planned and are tracked throughout the project duration to ensure that no limits are exceeded and that doses are kept as low as reasonably practicable.

7 ENVIRONMENT

7.1 Radioactive Discharges (April 2022-March 2023)

Solid

Low Level Waste (LLW) disposals to the Low Level Waste Repository (LLWR) continue. 45.12 m³ of LLW and VLLW with a total activity of 0.50 GBq was disposed of during the twelve month period from April 2022 to March 2023. There is no limit on the volume or radioactivity content of LLW and VLLW being disposed of under the site EA(S)R Permit. The main contribution to these waste consignments was decommissioned plant, equipment and materials generated during decommissioning operations.

Liquid

The main sources of liquid radioactive discharges during the period April 2022 to March 2023 were liquors generated through wet waste recovery and encapsulation processes and routine waste water arisings from the site active drain system.

Radionuclide or Group of Radionuclides	Annual Limit	Activity discharged (April 2022-March 2023)
Tritium	30 GBq	0.006 GBq
Caesium-137	160 GBq	0.044 GBq
Plutonium-241	2 GBq	0.001 GBq
All alpha emitting radionuclides not specifically listed taken together	2 GBq	0.003 GBq
All non-alpha emitting radionuclides not specifically listed taken together	60 GBq	0.038 GBq

Gaseous

The main contributions to gaseous radioactive discharges were ventilation systems operating in contamination controlled areas and reactor vessel 'breathing'.

Authorised Outlet, Group of Outlets or other discharge route	Radionuclide or Group of Radionuclides	Annual Limit	Activity discharged (April 2022-March 2023)
All authorised outlets taken together.	Tritium	100 MBq	0.3 MBq
	All other radionuclides (excluding tritium)	3 MBq	0.348 MBq
Discharges made as a consequence of reactor breathing	Tritium	3000 MBq	418.26 MBq
	Carbon-14	200 MBq	52.05 MBq

7.2 Non-radiological Environmental update (April 2022-March 2023)

Treated sewage effluent from the plant is not currently being independently assessed by SEPA due to SEPA Covid restrictions on visiting Site. Results from an independent off-site laboratory analysis verify that the sewage treatment works reed beds continue to work efficiently to maintain good quality effluent in compliance with the sites CAR discharge licence.

Monitoring and trending of data for resources such as water, electricity and fuel continues to determine where use can be minimised, in line with the site Environmental Management System. Over the period April 2022 to March 2023, the site used 18.40 Terra Joules (Tj) of energy; 17.68 Tj attributed to electricity consumption and 0.72 Tj attributed to fuel use in site vehicles, equipment, and generators. In the same 12-month period the site water consumption was 9,540m³. The site continues to report carbon equivalent emissions data as per the new company process.

Waste disposal and recycling is recorded in the company unified dashboard. Over the period April 2022 to March 2023, a total of 293 tonnes of waste was collected for consignment from site (193 tonnes for re-use, recycling, recovery, or composting, 96 tonnes sewage waste and 4 tonnes for disposal to landfill). This gives a recycling rate of approximately 66%.

7.3 Environmental Events (Feb 2023-April 2023)

The site received a final warning letter from SEPA following the findings from a SEPA investigation conducted at the site during November 2022. The investigation focused on the sites arrangements for the maintenance of gaseous and liquid discharge systems following the sites discovery of ventilation system defects which were reported to SEPA.

There was no harm caused to any persons or the environment as a result of the defects however we did not satisfy the requirements of our Permit. The site instigated a programme of close proximity inspections immediately following discovery of the defects with additional actions being placed to address the findings within the warning letter and site investigation.

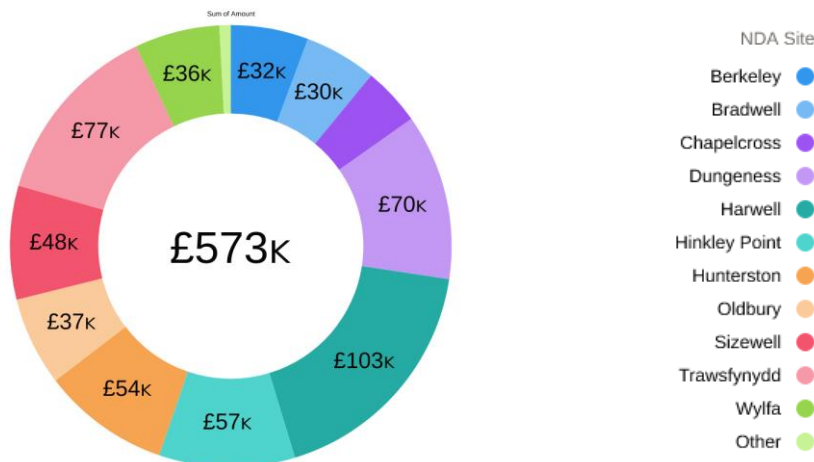
8 SOCIO-ECONOMIC / STAKEHOLDER UPDATE

Magnox socio-economic scheme 2022-23

£572,540 was allocated to communities surrounding the 12 Magnox sites.

£53,516 of which was to North Ayrshire:

- **£50,000** to The Radio City Association towards the transformational project to create a community hub and café at Main Street, Kilbirnie.
- **£2,000** to Firth of Clyde Coastal Rowing Club to fund a road trailer and trolley launch.
- **£730** to Ardrossan Winton Rovers under 14's girls football team towards Magnox branded tracksuits.
- **£786** to Tass Thistle 2007 Football Club towards Magnox branded football strip.



Magnox funding objectives remain the same:

For further information please go to :

<https://www.gov.uk/government/collections/magnox-working-with-our-communities>

Feel free to contact Sean Marshall or Mair Jones to discuss any potential applications (details on the above website)



NDA Socio-economic Strategy Refresh 2023-24

Under the Energy Act (2004), the NDA has a socio-economic role which recognises the importance of delivering the decommissioning programme in a socially responsible way. The approach to this is explained in the NDA Local Social and Economic Impact Strategy, last published in July 2020.



Since then, much has happened to shape the economic challenges, opportunities, and priorities in the communities around the NDA estate. The NDA is commencing a refresh of the Local Social and Economic Impact Strategy.

Over the coming months the NDA wish to engage with stakeholders across the UK to better understand the social and economic priorities in our communities to identify priority areas of focus, to align our internal processes and systems, and to make best use of the funding available across the group for maximum community benefit. Once developed, the new strategy will be subject to a period of public consultation before it is finalised and published.

9 SITE VISITS AND KEY DATES

Hunterston A Site continues to attract the right kind of interest through our good safety and business performance. Below is a selection of visitors / key dates during the period.

DATE	EVENT / VISIT
Tuesday 14 / Wednesday 15 March	Site visit regarding Temporary Weather Barrier Cladding options
Tuesday 21 / Wednesday 22 March	ONR Inspector Stuart Fannin hand over to Rowland Cook / Peter Hughes
Wednesday 22 March	Police Scotland Operations Shielding Meeting
Wednesday 29 March	Hunterston Decommissioning Teleconference Update by Site Director, Mark Blackley to Hunterston SSG Chair, Rita Holmes and SSG Vice Chair Stuart McGhie. <i>(Microsoft Teams Meeting)</i>
Thursday 30 March	Scottish Government Visit
Wednesday 12 April	Simone Rossi EDF CEO
Monday 24 April	Safety Case Workshop
Wednesday 3 May	Site Stand Downs – Andrew Forrest, Magnox
Wednesday 10 May	Hunterston Decommissioning Teleconference Update by Site Director, Mark Blackley to Hunterston SSG Chair, Rita Holmes and SSG Vice Chair Stuart McGhie. <i>(Microsoft Teams Meeting)</i>
Wednesday 17 May	ONR CNS Inspector John Duffy handover to Nathan Marston
Wednesday 24 May	Psychological Safety Training for Team Leaders
Thursday 25 May	Demonstration Site Emergency Exercise



Office for
Nuclear Regulation

ONR Site Report

Hunterston A

ONR Site Report

Hunterston A

Report for period: 1 January – 31 March 2023

Authored by: P Hughes, Nominated Site Inspector

Approved by: I Phillips, Delivery Lead Decommissioning, Fuel, and Waste

Issue No.: 1

Publication Date: 05/23

ONR Record Ref. No.: 2023/29403

Foreword

This report is issued as part of ONR's commitment to make information about inspection and regulatory activities relating to the above site available to the public. Reports are distributed to members for the Hunterston Site Stakeholder Group and are also available on the ONR website (<http://www.onr.org.uk/ilc/>).

Site inspectors from ONR usually attend Hunterston Site Stakeholder Group meetings where these reports are presented and will respond to any questions raised there. Any person wishing to inquire about matters covered by this report should contact ONR.

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1. Inspections

1.1. Date(s) of Inspection

The ONR site inspector and specialist inspectors made inspections on the following dates during the report period 1 January – 31 March 2023:

18 January 2023

21-22 March 2023

The ONR site security inspector inspected the site on the following date:

No inspections this period

2. Routine Matters

2.1. Inspections

Inspections are undertaken as part of the process for monitoring compliance with:

- The conditions attached by ONR to the nuclear site licence granted under the Nuclear Installations Act 1965 (NIA65) (as amended);
- The Energy Act 2013;
- The Health and Safety at Work etc Act 1974 (HSWA74);
- Regulations made under HSWA74, for example the Ionising Radiations Regulations 2017 (IRR17) and the Management of Health and Safety at Work Regulations 1999 (MHSWR99);
- The Fire (Scotland) Act 2005;
- The Nuclear Industries Security Regulations (NISR) 2003; and
- The Nuclear Safeguards (EU Exit) Regulations 2019 (NSR19).

The inspections entail monitoring the licensee's actions on the site in relation to incidents, operations, maintenance, projects, modifications, safety case changes and any other matters that may affect safety. The licensee is required to make and implement adequate arrangements under the conditions attached to the licence in order to ensure legal compliance. Inspections seek to judge both the adequacy of these arrangements and their implementation.

In this period, routine inspections of (Hunterston A) covered the following:

- Adequate implementation of incidents on the site
- Site Inspector Handover

Adequate implementation of incidents on the site – On 18 January 2023 the Site Inspector carried out an inspection of the Magnox Ltd site incident reporting system. Overall I was satisfied with the site incident reporting system. There remains a healthy operational experience feedback (OEF) culture and application of the learning from events is seen as a priority at site. The internal regulation team provide independent challenge on the operation of the OEF process and action is being taken to address the findings.

Site Inspector Handover – On 21/22 March 2023 the incoming and outgoing Site Inspector performed a handover visit. This involved a general familiarisation with the station and senior personnel.

Members of the public, who would like further information on ONR's inspection activities during the reporting period, can view site Intervention Reports at www.onr.org.uk/intervention-records on our website www.onr.org.uk.

Should you have any queries regarding our inspection activities, please email contact@onr.gov.uk.

Other Work

The site inspector held a periodic meeting with safety representatives, to support their function of representing employees and receiving information on matters affecting their health, safety and welfare at work.

3. Non-Routine Matters

Licensees are required to have arrangements to respond to non-routine matters and events. ONR inspectors judge the adequacy of the licensee's response, including actions taken to implement any necessary improvements.

Matters and events of particular note during the period were:

Reporting of Injuries, Diseases and Dangerous Occurrences Regulations (RIDDOR) event – On 15 March 2023 a fire occurred within a Changeroom Facility. The fire has caused significant damage to the change room facility rendering it unusable. This has impacted the site's ability to carry out work that requires the use of this change room, shower facilities and toilets.

A specialist ONR fire inspector carried out a preliminary inquiry and determined that the event did not meet the ONR investigation criteria. The site has instigated a route cause investigation and ONR will follow up on the findings as part of normal interactions with Magnox Ltd.

4. Regulatory Activity

ONR may issue formal documents to ensure compliance with regulatory requirements. Under nuclear site licence conditions, ONR issues regulatory documents, which either permit an activity or require some form of action to be taken; these are usually collectively termed 'Licence Instruments' (LIs) but can take other forms. In addition, inspectors may take a range of enforcement actions, to include issuing an Enforcement Notice.

No LIs, Enforcement Notices or Enforcement letters were issued during this period.

5. News from ONR

For the latest news and information from ONR, please read and subscribe to our regular email newsletter 'ONR News' at www.onr.org.uk/onrnews.

6. Contacts

Office for Nuclear Regulation
Redgrave Court
Merton Road
Bootle
Merseyside
L20 7HS
website: www.onr.org.uk
email: Contact@onr.gov.uk

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Hunterston Site Stakeholder Group

SEPA Update- Hunterston A

1st June 2023

Regulation

Environmental Authorisations (Scotland) Regulations 2018 (EASR)- radioactive substances

Telephone communication with the site continued throughout the period since the last SSG in March, including formal monthly staying in touch telephone calls. Routine teleconferences with Hunterston A on local issues, and the corporate Magnox Ltd team on strategic issues have also continued as before.

Site visits continue in order to ensure compliance with the site permit.

SEPA Site Inspection 21st – 23rd November

Upon finding the holes within the ventilation ductwork in the Low Level Waste Processing Facility on the site in October, along with SEPA recommendations at the site inspection in October, Magnox began a scope of work to undertake visual inspections of the gaseous containment systems. SEPA was subsequently made aware of a number of defects associated with these systems and visited site as part of an investigation on 21st – 23rd November.

In April 2023 SEPA issued Magnox with a Final Warning Letter outlining a number of non-compliances with the Hunterston A site EASR permit associated with the findings of the investigation into the gaseous ventilation system defects.

SEPA Site Inspection 28th March 2023

SEPA undertook an inspection of the process employed by Hunterston A to submit the monthly gaseous discharge returns. The inspection focused specifically on the process for sample receipt in the labs and monthly reporting of the gaseous 'any other radionuclides' on the permit, i.e., the particulate alpha and beta.

SEPA is currently considering the findings of this inspection.

Review of Characterisation of ILW Bunker Waste

SEPA received an optioneering report from Magnox on 28th March 2022 entitled “Review of Options for Managing Waste from The Hunterston A Solid Active Waste Bunkers Given its Status at May 2021 WD/REP/0032/21”.

Having initially reviewed the information sent, SEPA considered there needed to be a review of the underpinning characterisation work and whether this is sufficient to underpin the optioneering decisions.

SEPA procured a specialist contractor to review the model and associated work undertaken by Magnox with regards to the characterisation of the SAWB waste. The review commenced in December, SEPA received a draft of the report in March 2023, and have provided feedback to the contractor. A final version of the report is expected in the near future.

Non-Rad Regulation

There have been no issues relating to non-rad regulation since the last scheduled SSG meeting.

Environmental Events

Notification 1st February 2023

Magnox notified SEPA on the 20th April 2023 that a defect was found on the Cartridge Cooling Pond gaseous discharge ductwork. This is part of the ongoing investigation work being undertaken by the site resulting from the defects found in the LLWPF ventilation system in October.

Pollution Prevention and Control (PPC)

There were no reportable incidents, complaints or non-compliance events affecting SEPA’s interests at Hunterston A known to have occurred since the last meeting of the SSG at the time of writing this report.

Controlled Activities Regulations (CAR)

There were no reportable incidents, complaints or non-compliance events affecting SEPA’s interests at Hunterston A known to have occurred since the last meeting of the SSG at the time of writing this report.

Radioactivity in Food & the Environment (RIFE)

RIFE is a collaborative report on work carried out by SEPA, the other UK environment agencies, Food Standards Scotland and Food Standards Agency on the radiological monitoring of food and the environment. The RIFE reports aim to provide an in-depth assessment of radioactivity in food and the environment in the UK and the public's exposure to radiation, including in the vicinity of Hunterston A. The RIFE report incorporates the results from the analysis of a wide range of samples and key information on local habits to demonstrate both that food remains safe and that the public's exposure to ionising radiation is within legal limits.

The latest edition (RIFE 27) covering 2021 has been published and can be obtained from SEPA's website along with previous year's reports. RIFE 27 reports that the total dose for the representative person (most exposed) around the Hunterston site, which includes both Hunterston A and Hunterston B, for 2021 was 0.006 millisieverts, which is well below the legal annual dose limit of 1 millisievert as set out in paragraph 26, Schedule 8 of EASR19.

Scottish Pollutant Release Inventory (SPRI)

The Scottish Pollutant Release Inventory (SPRI) is a publicly accessible electronic database of releases of pollutants to all environmental media and transfers of non-radioactive waste. We intend that, as far as practicable, SPRI be the principle means by which information on Scottish pollutant releases and non-radioactive waste transfers is collected and made public. Wherever possible, such information will be collected and presented by this one system. The data for 2021, including that from Hunterston A and B, have been published and are available on SEPA's website under "Environment/Environmental data/SPRI".

Cyber-Attack

SEPA continue to update our service status on a weekly basis so that we're clear on what those we work with can expect and how we'll prioritise progress.

Melanie Hayes
Radioactive Substances Specialist
May 2023

Hunterston SSG

NDA – Update Report

June 1st 2023

Regional Stakeholder Event - Scotland

- After the event in Edinburgh last September, NDA has decided that the next in-person Stakeholder Summit will be held in Cumbria in 2024.
- There will be an online, virtual Summit this year, probably in October.
- Two Regional events on the theme of 'Innovation', will be held in June 2023. West Cumbria, June 8th and Glasgow, June 28th. The Glasgow event is co-created and hosted with University of Strathclyde and will be held at their Innovation and Technology Centre.
- Invitations have now been sent.
- More details on the agenda as soon as we have them.

New Chief Financial Officer

NDA has appointed Kate Bower as the new CFO. She joins NDA from Morgan Siddall and was also previously the CFO at Crown Estates.

NDA and New Nuclear

- Great British Nuclear has been launched. It will initially focus on Small Modular Reactors.
- Magnox Chief Executive Gwen Parry-Jones has become the first Chief Executive of GBN. She started this interim role on 1 May.
- Prior to GBN, NDA had been approached by a number of developers and technology providers asking about the availability of land on our sites. We have provided publicly available information on an open and transparent basis to enquirers.
- We are continuing to support Cwmni Eginio in Wales, in line with the Memorandum of Understanding agreed with Government.

Spaceport Funding

- Construction has begun at Sutherland Spaceport in Scotland, making this the first vertical launch spaceport to be built on the UK mainland
- NDA is one of a number of bodies supporting the Spaceport, which is near Dounreay.
- The development will support around 250 new employment opportunities in the Highlands and Islands over the coming years, including 40 jobs in Sutherland and Caithness.

Decontamination of Concrete Ponds

- The design of a new pond concrete decontamination machine has started at Dounreay, as well as the construction of an inactive trials facility.
- This will ultimately lead to active trialling in the Dounreay Fast Reactor pond as a lead and learn project for decommissioning.

- It will support the remediation of the Sellafield legacy ponds

NDA/Scottish Government Secondment

- Ended December 2022.
- New MoU for future secondments with Scottish Government currently being considered.

NDA Local Social and Economic Impact Strategy

- NDA is refreshing its Socio-Economic Impact Strategy.
- We are asking for stakeholder input.
- Help us identify priority areas of focus.
- Make best use of funding.
- Period of public consultation before being finalised and published.
- Contact is andrew.harper@nda.gov.uk

Game-changing tele-existence technologies showcased

- On April 25 2023, the [Nuclear Decommissioning Authority](#) (NDA), [Defence Science and Technology Laboratory](#) (Dstl), and [Defence and Security Accelerator](#) (DASA) held the Telexistence: Phase 2 demonstration event at the BattleLab, one of the Ministry of Defence's innovation acceleration facilities.
- The event brought together partners on national and international nuclear decommissioning, defence and security stakeholders and potential end-users, to showcase three novel telexistence technologies funded through a two phase £2.3million innovation competition run by DASA on behalf of joint funders, Dstl and the NDA.
- The competition sought innovations to help give those working in hazardous environments the ability to undertake tasks without being physically present, helping decrease risk and reduce the logistical burden associated with dangerous operations.

ENDS

David J. Wallace

NDA Stakeholder Lead - Scotland

SCOTTISH GOVERNMENT UPDATE TO HUNTERSTON SITE STAKEHOLDER GROUP – 1st JUNE 2023

SCOTTISH GOVERNMENT RADIOACTIVE SUBSTANCES AND NUCLEAR DECOMMISSIONING POLICY TEAM

Four Nations Policy Consultation on UK Radioactive Substances and Nuclear Decommissioning Policy Framework

The consultation for the policy framework closed on 24 May. Scottish Government will be given sight of all the responses to the consultation and will consider any queries specific to Scotland and will work with the UK Government and other devolved administrations on the revised framework.

Scottish Nuclear Sites Stakeholder Group Meeting (SSSG)

We are in the process of organising the next SSSG meeting. We are looking at dates towards the end of August 2023. If you have received an invite to the doodle poll, to select a suitable SSSG date, can you please complete the poll by the 31st of May. Can you also please confirm if you would prefer to attend the SSSG in person at Victoria Quay in Edinburgh or attend virtually. If you would like to attend the SSSG and are not currently on the distribution list, please contact me via email and I will add you to the list.

Diane Hamilton

Scottish Government

Hunterston B Decommissioning Forthcoming Consultation

30th May – 11th July

Recap on Previous Consultation

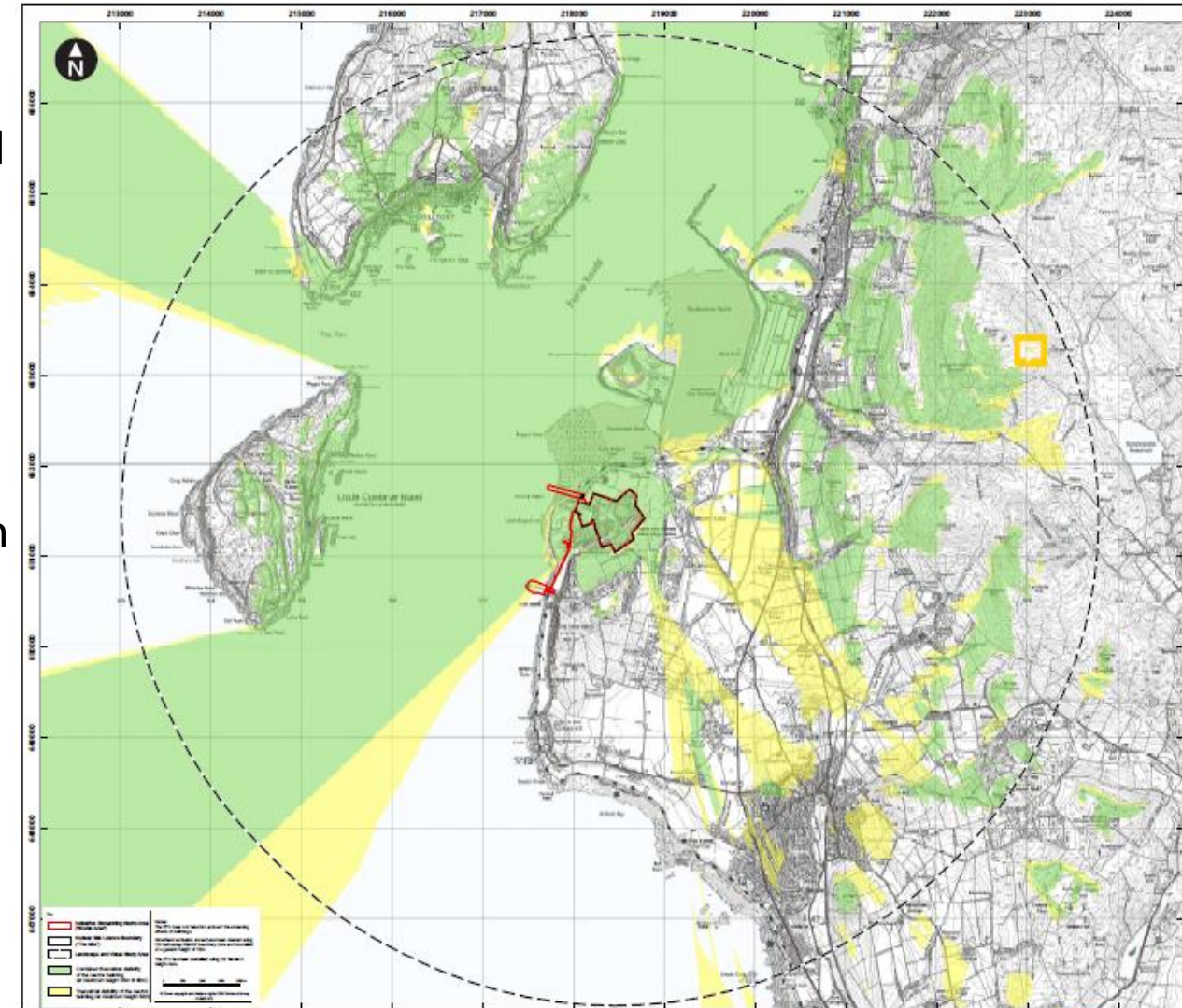
- 8th August 2022 – 19th September 2022
- Focused on decommissioning strategy outlining key timeframes and components of each decommissioning phase
- 4 Consultation events (West Kilbride, Fairlie, Millport and Largs) which were attended by 80 people and further meetings with Community Councils
- Strong engagement with online exhibition with 325 unique users driven by social media, newspaper advertisements and leaflet approach
- 27 pieces of feedback received from all media (Feedback forms via freepost envelopes, emails, telephone and via online form submission) from a broad range of stakeholders
- Consultation was undertaken in parallel to ONR's consideration of the Environmental Scoping Report which was made available on our website.
- ONR's opinion on the Scoping Report was received 05/10/2022. General support for the scope of the environmental assessment.

Feedback Summary

- Safestore: The visual impact of the Safestore should be minimised.
- Waste: Further detail requested about what waste will be produced during decommissioning
- Waste: Support for assumption that HNB waste is stored in HNA ILW store
- Waste: Queries related to waste management and effluent discharge during the Preparations for Quiescence phase
- Transport: Concerns about the traffic and the affect on local roads.
- Employment: Skills and site knowledge should be retained.
- Programme: Concerns that defueling would be delayed. Potential changes to proposed programme in light of plan for continuous decommissioning of Hunterston A.

Update on Safestore

- Further work undertaken to examine the difference in visibility between full height (FH) (yellow) and reduced height (RH)(green)
- FH is worst case for the EIADR assessment, but overall visibility not hugely affected by a reduction in height.
- Work is ongoing on the technical feasibility of removing plant and machinery that would enable the RH Safestore and what implications this would have on Quiescence entry.
- Confirmation that aluminium cladding is currently considered a suitable cladding material for the Safestore. However, cladding type will not be fixed until the detailed design stage.
- Interim landscaping plan will be prepared for the Quiescence phase to mitigate impacts of the site demolition activities undertaken during the Preparations for Quiescence phase



Zone of Theoretical Visibility for full height Safestore (yellow) and reduced height option (green)

Update on Radioactive Waste Management

- Decommissioning Waste Processing Facility - an application for two small modular buildings may be required alongside the refurbishment of existing buildings – planning application in 2024
- Operational Waste Processing Facility – optioneering is ongoing considering re-furbishment of buildings or a new build facility
- Active Effluent Discharge
 - New arrangements are required when CW pumps are turned off
 - Ongoing optioneering suggests a pipe within the existing outfall tunnel to the existing discharge point at the outfall is the preferred approach
- ILW Storage - it remains the intention to utilise the existing HNA Store for ILW processed and packaged during the PfQ phase
- On-site disposals
 - PfQ phase – limited suitable material will be generated so no on-site disposals currently expected
 - LLW rubble generated during Final Site Clearance phase may be suitable for on-site disposal but is not currently within our proposals.
 - Should this become part of the plans, they will be subject to necessary approvals from ONR and SEPA and likely subject to additional public consultation.

Update on Transport

- HGV movements profile for the PfQ phase has been estimated based on:
 - the waste profile for the demolition works
 - material requirements for Safestore construction and other PfQ activities
 - movements of plant to site
 - import of material to fill voids.
- Estimated averages:
 - Less than 10 additional HGVs per day for the first few years
 - Increasing to an average peak of 25 HGV movements per day in the PfQ phase.
- Given the existing capacity of the highway network, this level of increase in movements does not reach the requirement for more detailed EIA Traffic assessment and thus concludes no significant effects
- Noise and air quality effects related to transport are not predicted to be significant

Environmental Impact Assessment

- Additional information about the potential environmental effects is provided in the Consultation Document
- Environmental management measures identified in the assessment will be included in an Environmental Management Plan which will control how works are undertaken on site.
- EMP will be revised annually by the site operator in the PfQ phase as a condition of the ONR consent to ensure management is effective.
- Management measures will include dust, noise, pollution prevention measures.
- On track to submit Environmental Impact Assessment to ONR in November. ONR will determine whether to give permission to commence decommissioning based upon the findings of the assessment.

Thank You

