



Joint Berkeley/Oldbury Site Stakeholder Group

Oldbury Conference Centre, Oldbury Naite, Thornbury, BS35 1RQ

Thursday 11 May 2023

Meeting starts at 13.00, Refreshments served from 1230.

A G E N D A

- | | | |
|-------|-----|--|
| 13.00 | 1. | Welcome and Chair Introductions |
| 13.10 | 2. | Apologies for absence |
| 13.15 | 3. | Minutes of Meeting held on 25 January 2023
a) Accuracy
b) Matters arising |
| 13.25 | 4. | Site Director Reports for Berkeley & Oldbury –
Mark Pitts, Acting Site Director |
| 13.45 | 5. | Update on Oldbury Silt Lagoon – Alasdair Murdoch |
| 13.55 | 6. | Magnox Corporate Update – Bill Hamilton |
| 14.10 | 7. | NDA Update – Simon Napper |
| 14.30 | 8. | ONR Reports – Paul Jenneson, Berkeley & Oldbury |
| 14.45 | 9. | Environment Agency Reports -
Peter Reynolds, Berkeley & Rebecca Cleverley,
Oldbury |
| 14.55 | 10. | Government Consultation – Managing Radioactive
Substance and Nuclear Decommissioning |
| 15.05 | 11. | Update from Rolls Royce |
| 15.20 | 12. | Chairs report and AOB |

Date of next SSG: To be confirmed

**BERKELEY AND OLDBURY ON SEVERN SITE STAKEHOLDER GROUPS
SUMMARY OF KEY POINTS ARISING AT THE MEETING HELD AT
OLDBURY CONFERENCE CENTRE ON WEDNESDAY 25 JANUARY 2023**

- Mr John Stanton welcomed members to this joint meeting of the Site Stakeholder Groups for the Berkeley and Oldbury Sites.
- Mr Mike Heaton, Site Director, reported on recent activities at the Sites. He said that there had been no significant safety issues at either Site since the previous meeting.
- Mr Heaton said that at Berkeley the first of the radioactive waste packages to be processed on site in concrete box containers had been stored in the Interim Storage Facility. The retrieval of waste from Vault 3 would start in the current year.
- A major project for the removal of the former blower houses which circled around the reactor structures at Berkeley was about to commence. This would involve the removal of metallic waste arising from the demolition of the boilers which had been stored in these buildings. The wastes would be monitored and despatched off site.
- At Oldbury work was continuing on the demolition of redundant buildings containing conventional plant items. The building which had contained the electrical connections to the grid system had been demolished. Electrical connections to these areas had to be carefully isolated before demolition could take place.
- Mr Bill Hamilton reported on Magnox corporate issues. He pointed out that Magnox was to take responsibility for the decommissioning of the Dounreay Site in April 2023. He said that dates had been identified for the final clearance of former Magnox power station sites – the date for Berkeley was the 2060s and for Oldbury the 2080s.
- Reports were provided by representatives of the Nuclear Decommissioning Authority, the Office for Nuclear Regulation, and the Environment Agency.
- Mr Stanton reported on recent activities on behalf of the Groups.

**BERKELEY AND OLDBURY ON SEVERN SITE STAKEHOLDER GROUPS
MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD AT THE OLDBURY CONFERENCE
CENTRE, ON WEDNESDAY 25 JANUARY 2023**

PRESENT:

Mr J Stanton (in the chair)	-	Co-opted member
Cllr J Crook	-	Monmouthshire County Council
Cllr S Chandler JP	-	Hamfallow Parish Council
Cllr C Davies	-	Stinchcombe Parish Council
Cllr N Easby	-	Berkeley Town Council
Cllr C Parkinson	-	Thornbury Town Council
Cllr D Power	-	Chepstow Town Council
Cllr M Riddle	-	South Gloucestershire Council
Mr B Roberts	-	Thornbury Chamber of Commerce

IN ATTENDANCE:

Mr S Napper	-	Nuclear Decommissioning Authority
Mr P Jenneson (part time)	-	Office for Nuclear Regulation
Mr P Reynolds	-	Environment Agency
Ms A Presdee	-	Gloucestershire County Council
Ms G Ellis-King	-	South Gloucestershire Council
Mr M Heaton	-	Oldbury and Berkeley Sites Director
Mr W Hamilton	-	Magnox
Mr M Pitts	-	Magnox Oldbury
Ms C Pritchard	-	Magnox Communications
Ms E Vaughan-Lewis	-	Magnox Communications
Mr A Mitchell		
Mr G Wheeler		
Ms B French		
Mr M J Davis (Secretary)		

WELCOME

- 1 Mr Stanton welcomed everyone to this joint meeting of the Berkeley and Oldbury on Severn Sites' Stakeholder Groups.

APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

- 2 Apologies for absence were received from Mr M Lynden, Ms R Cleverley, Rev S Godsell, Cllr Ms V Williams, Cllr I Bamfield, Cllr Ms H Molyneux, Mr G Vaughan-Lewis, Cllr Mrs E Ashton, and Dr J Cordwell.

MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

(a) Accuracy

- 3 The minutes of the joint meeting of the Berkeley and Oldbury SSGs held on 26 October 2022 were approved as an accurate record subject to the inclusion of Cllr Parkinson in the list of those present at the meeting and subject to the comment by Ms French that discussion on individual radiation exposures had not been recorded fully. (This is covered in further discussion under matters arising from the minutes recorded below)

(b) Matters arising

Personal Radiation Exposures (discussion on Environmental Monitoring Report refers)

- 4 Mr Heaton confirmed that radiation exposures received by individual contractors' personnel were recorded in personal dose records which were transferred with the individuals to any future site where they might work. Doses received by Magnox personnel were expressed as an average for those staff who worked with radioactive materials, not as an average for all staff.

Flood Risk (para 20 of minutes of meeting held on 27 July 2022 refer)

- 5 Ms French said that in further discussions subsequent to the meeting on 27 July, Mr Buttivant of the Environment Agency had said that flooding could have occurred on an occasion in February last year if conditions had been as predicted in forecasts.
- 6 Mr Heaton acknowledged local concerns in relation to flooding on the banks of the Severn. He said that for the Oldbury Site, potential flooding risks were always taken into account in safety cases but that during decommissioning the potential hazards from flooding were greatly reduced with the draining of the cooling ponds and materials remaining above ground in secure tanks and containments. He said that at Berkeley there was additional flood protection provided around the area of the waste storage vaults.
- 7 Cllr Riddle referred to the group which had been established by parish councils to campaign for improvements in sea defences.

SITE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

- 8 Mr Heaton reported on recent activities at the Oldbury and Berkeley Sites, drawing particular attention to the following:

- (i) There had been no significant safety or environmental events at either Site since the previous meeting.
 - (ii) The first two concrete boxes of radioactive waste had been processed and stored in the Interim Storage Facility at Berkeley. The packaging of wastes in concrete boxes was continuing and it was anticipated that retrieval of wastes from the Berkeley vaults would continue for a further eight years. The retrieval of waste from Vault 3 was due to start during the current year.
 - (iii) The cans of radioactive laboratory waste in the Shielded Area at Berkeley had been assayed so that the nature of the waste was known, and these wastes would be retrieved and stored in ductile cast iron containers over the next year or so.
 - (iv) A major project for the removal of the Berkeley blower houses was about to commence. This involved the removal of metallic waste which had been stored in the blower houses. This waste which had arisen from the demolition of the boiler structures, would be monitored and processed for despatch off site. It was anticipated that the construction of a facility for handling these wastes would need planning consent.
 - (v) The focus at Oldbury over the next few years would be on the demolition of buildings containing items of conventional plant. The building which had contained the 132 kV substation equipment had been removed. Specialist contractors were used for the demolition of these buildings.
 - (vi) Work was continuing on the electrical and mechanical isolation of the former Turbine Hall to allow the demolition of the buildings.
 - (vii) The Sites continued to support various socio-economic support schemes and staff were involved in charity fund raising.
- 6 Mr Hamilton pointed out that a new website for the SSGs was due to be launched in the coming month.
- 7 In reply to a question from Cllr Chandler, Mr Heaton said that the levels of radioactivity in the metallic waste stored in the Berkeley blower houses would have been reduced by the process of natural decay whilst in this temporary storage. The materials would be monitored, and appropriate destinations identified for off-site disposal.
- 8 In reply to a question from Mr Mitchell, Mr Heaton said that the former circulating water culverts at Oldbury had been sealed to prevent any possibility of water ingress to the Site.
- 9 In reply to a question from Cllr Davies, Mr Hamilton said that there was no impending industrial action by Magnox staff and there were agreed minimum staffing levels.

MAGNOX CORPORATE UPDATE

- 10 Mr Hamilton reported on Magnox corporate issues. He said that the Dounreay site would be joining Magnox with effect from 1st of April with all the necessary regulatory arrangements having been completed. The advanced gas cooled reactor sites would transfer to Magnox from EDF as defuelling was completed; it was likely that the first AGR site to be transferred would be Hunterston B at some time during 2025. With these additional responsibilities Magnox would be undertaking some rebranding to reflect the increased scope of its work.
- 11 Mr Hamilton said that Magnox had identified planned site clearance dates for each of its sites. The identification of these dates was based upon assessments of physical condition, wider environmental issues, socio economic factors, lifetime costs and potential future uses of sites. The dates were identified as 10 year bandwidths. The date for Berkeley was identified as the 2060s and the date for Oldbury was the 2080s. These dates were for final site clearance and regulatory controls would allow some very low level waste arising from demolition to be left in voids on Sites.
- 12 In reply to comments from Cllr Riddle, Mr Hamilton said that new relationships would be established with local stakeholders for the AGR sites which were not adjacent to existing Magnox sites.
- 13 Mr Hamilton said that funds were being provided by NDA to help in communities which were vulnerable in current circumstances. These funds were being allocated via local authorities.

NUCLEAR DECOMMISSIONING AUTHORITY

- 14 Mr Napper reported on current NDA issues, drawing particular attention to the following:
 - (i) The current consultation on the NDA business plan for the next three years would continue until 6 February. Mr Napper said that any comments which members might have on the plan would be welcome.
 - (ii) A stakeholder survey carried out for the NDA had indicated positive progress with encouraging results relating to trust, transparency, and openness.
 - (iii) After the stakeholder summit which had been held in Edinburgh last year, an event would be held online this Autumn with a face to face meeting in Cumbria next year.
 - (iv) It was anticipated that a government document on decommissioning and waste management would be issued for consultation shortly.
 - (v) A graduate recruitment scheme had been introduced within NDA.

- (vi) Consideration was still being given to proposals for the future use of the Oldbury Silt Lagoon 3 land. Proposals would be brought forward for discussion with members in due course.

OFFICE FOR NUCLEAR REGULATION

- 15 Mr Jenneson reported on ONR's regulatory and inspection activities in relation to the Berkeley and Oldbury Sites. He said that reports on regulatory activities at each Site had been circulated to members in advance of the meeting. These reports were prepared on a quarterly basis and the reports recently circulated covered the period from October to December 2022. He said that he had no concerns in relation to nuclear safety matters at either Site, and that he had been pleased to see the recognition given in the press to the progress with waste encapsulation at Berkeley.

ENVIRONMENT AGENCY

- 16 Mr Reynolds reported on the Environment Agency's regulatory activities in relation to the Berkeley and Oldbury Sites. He said that Ms Gallagher had been appointed to another post within the Agency and Ms Cleverley had been unable to attend this meeting. He reminded members that he had been the Agency's inspector for these Sites some years ago and he had been pleased to see the progress on issues which had been under consideration at that time.
- 17 Mr Reynolds said that Ms Gallagher and Ms Cleverley had conducted inspections at Oldbury and Berkeley since the last meeting and both of these inspections had had satisfactory results. Reports on the Agency's regulatory activities at the two Magnox Sites had not been circulated in advance but would be sent to members after the meeting.

CHAIR'S UPDATE

- 28 Mr Stanton reported on recent activities on behalf of the Group. He referred to meetings he had attended including a Magnox executive meeting, a meeting with the chairs of other SSG's and a meeting of the Emergency Planning Consultative Committee for the Sites.

ANY OTHER BUSINESS

New Generation Development

- 29 Ms Ellis-King reported on discussions with Rolls Royce on the possibility of siting a small modular reactor on either of the Magnox Sites. She said that Rolls Royce would be prepared to come and provide information on their position on this at the next meeting of this Group.
- 30 Cllr Chandler referred to proposals for a major housing development between Sharpness and Berkeley which would have a major impact on any proposals for

new generating plant on the Berkeley Site. The proposals would be considered during forthcoming discussions on the Stroud Local Plan.

Dr J McHugh

- 31 Cllr Chandler drew attention to the fact that Dr McHugh had passed away during November 2022. Members expressed their appreciation of the contribution which Dr McHugh had made as a member of this Group.

DATE TIME AND PLACE OF NEXT MEETING

- 32 It was noted that the next meeting of this Group was scheduled to be held on 26 April 2023.

MJD
30 January 2023



Department for
Energy Security
& Net Zero

1 Victoria Street
Westminster
London
SW1H 0ET

The UK Government and devolved governments are today publishing a consultation on proposals for a revised UK-wide policy framework for nuclear decommissioning and the management of radioactive substances, including radioactive waste.

As a key member of the sector, we would welcome your views on the proposals being put forward and would encourage you to respond to the consultation. If you wish to discuss the proposals further, please get in touch via the email address below. The consultation will close on the 24th of May 2023 and can be accessed at the following link: www.gov.uk/government/consultations/managing-radioactive-substances-and-nuclear-decommissioning.

It has been 25 years since the overall policy in this area was last updated and there are now new challenges for nuclear decommissioning and radioactive substances management across the UK, new structures and responsibilities in place, and new advances in waste management techniques.

As such, the UK Government and Devolved Governments consider it is time to update and replace these policies with a consolidated UK-wide policy framework. In doing so we aim to set out clearly those policies that are pursued jointly by the UK Government and Devolved Governments and any separate policies that apply in any one nation.

The proposals aim to update, clarify, and consolidate a number of policies into a UK-wide policy framework and facilitate speedier and more cost-effective decommissioning and radioactive waste management. They aim to create clearer and more consistent policy objectives across the UK, reduce unnecessary burden, unlock more innovative and sustainable ways of working realising significant savings for industry and the taxpayer, whilst maintaining high standards of safety, security, and environmental protection.

As well as consolidating radioactive substances and nuclear decommissioning policy into a single policy framework we are also consulting on proposals to achieve more proportionate and cost-effective waste management and disposal routes for some less hazardous intermediate level radioactive waste. The current policy of the UK Government and Devolved Governments of Wales and Northern Ireland is to place this waste in a geological disposal facility which on current estimates is expected to be operational in the 2050s. We are proposing to amend this policy to allow less hazardous intermediate level waste to be disposed of in near surface disposal facilities where it is safe to do so. Developing an alternative disposal route which



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& Net Zero

could be available within the next 10 years, has the potential to achieve significant savings without compromising safety and security, though a geological disposal facility will still be necessary for the most hazardous radioactive waste.

Other consultation proposals include updating our policies on managing spent fuel to reflect changes in the new and advanced nuclear power sector and a policy statement on managing uranium to provide clarity on how the UK Government expects it to be managed.

We look forward to hearing your views on these proposals.

Yours sincerely,

Umran Nazir
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Nuclear Decommissioning
UK Government
rsndpolconsult@beis.gov.uk

Alice Hall and Emma Harding
Deputy Director,
Environmental Quality and Resilience
Scottish Government

Elen Shepard
Dirprwy Gyfarwyddwr, Diogeli'r Amgylchedd |
Deputy Director, Environmental Protection
Llywodraeth Cymru | Welsh Government

Dave Foster
Director of Natural Environment Policy Division,
Department of Agriculture, Environment and
Rural Affairs.
Northern Ireland Executive



Office for
Nuclear Regulation

ONR Site Report

Magnox Ltd – Berkeley

ONR Site Report

Magnox Ltd - Berkeley

Report for period: 1 January – 31 March 2023

Authored by: P Jenneson, Nominated Site Inspector

Approved by: I Phillips, DFW Delivery Lead

Issue No.: 1

Publication Date: April-23

ONR Record Ref. No.: 2023/19340

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 Berkeley Site Stakeholders Group and are also available on the ONR website (<http://www.onr.org.uk/llc/>).

Site inspectors from ONR usually attend Berkeley Site Stakeholders 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

ONR inspectors carried out inspections on the following dates during the report period 1 January 2023 to 31 March 2023:

- 22 & 23 February 2023
- 2 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 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 Magnox Ltd Berkeley covered the following:

- radioactive waste management
- decommissioning
- security

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.

2.2. Other Work

The site inspector continued to assess the Magnox Ltd proposal to increase the number of concrete boxes (CBs) stored in the Interim Storage Facility (ISF). The proposal to further increase the number, from four CBs to a single layer of unstacked CBs, was supported by adequate risk assessments and measurements taken from the initial CBs stored. In order to stack CBs Magnox Ltd will have to modify the ISF safety case which will be subject to ongoing oversight by ONR.

The site inspector attended the Magnox Ltd Oldbury, Berkeley and Hinkley Point A Quarterly Regulator Interface Meeting on the 13 March 2023 to discuss issues, events and project milestone updates at the sites. As this was the final quarter of the inspection year, it included an annual review of safety, security and environmental performance. The overall site performance across the Magnox Ltd southwest region remains adequate and no new issues which would significantly impact ONR's purposes were identified.

The site inspector held regular meetings with the Site Director and weekly keep-in-touch meetings with the operational staff on site. At these meetings they discussed regulatory issues, site incidents, future permissioning and progress with significant decommissioning milestone delivery.

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.

There were no such matters or events of significance during the reporting period.

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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Nuclear Regulation

ONR Site Report

Magnox Ltd – Oldbury

ONR Site Report

Magnox Ltd - Oldbury

Report for period: 1 January – 31 March 2023

Authored by: P Jenneson, Nominated Site Inspector

Approved by: I Phillips, DFW Delivery Lead

Issue No.: 1

Publication Date: April-23

ONR Record Ref. No.: 2023/19342

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 Oldbury Site Stakeholder Group and are also available on the ONR website (<http://www.onr.org.uk/llic/>).

Site inspectors from ONR usually attend Oldbury 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

ONR inspectors carried out inspections on the following dates during the report period 1 January 2023 to 31 March 2023:

- 10, 11 & 25 January 2023
- 1, 29 & 30 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 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 Magnox Ltd Oldbury covered the following:

- radioactive waste management
- decommissioning
- security

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.

2.2. Other Work

The site inspector attended the Magnox Ltd Oldbury, Berkeley and Hinkley Point A Quarterly Regulator Interface Meeting on the 13 March 2023 to discuss issues, events and project milestone updates at the sites. As this was the final quarter of the inspection year, it included an annual review of safety, security and environmental performance. The overall site performance across the Magnox Ltd southwest region remains adequate and no new issues which would significantly impact ONR's purposes were identified.

The site inspector held regular meetings with the Site Director and weekly keep-in-touch meetings with the operational staff on site. At these meetings they discussed regulatory issues, site incidents, future permissioning and progress with significant decommissioning milestone delivery.

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.

There were no such matters or events of significance during the reporting period.

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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Environment Agency Report

Berkeley Site Stakeholder Group

April 2023

This report covers our regulation of Magnox Ltd. at Berkeley Site and related issues over the period January 2023 to April 2023.

Radioactive substances regulation

We regulate radioactive waste disposals and discharges to the environment. We do this by placing limits and conditions in environmental permits, which helps us to ensure that radioactive waste discharges are minimised, and that the environment is protected. We carry out regular checks of Magnox's compliance with our regulatory requirements.

We also regulate and control other activities through our environmental permits, including surface water discharges to surrounding water bodies and emissions to air.

Radioactive Substances Compliance Assessment Reports (RASCARs) summarising our inspections, and any non-compliances found, are made available to the public on request.

Permitting

Magnox holds a radioactive substances activity permit under the Environmental Permitting Regulations (EPR) at the Berkeley site (EPR/ZP3893SG). No changes have been made to the permit since the last SSG meeting.

Compliance activities

We are in regular contact with Berkeley site, including remote meetings, to ensure we are aware of progress on decommissioning, progress on actions and recommendations and any emerging issues at the site.

We visited Berkeley site in January to gain an overview of site status and to observe progress with the waste retrieval projects underway at Berkeley.

In addition to our own inspection activities, we review Magnox reports of operational events and incidents that have occurred on site on a weekly basis. We follow up on these where appropriate. There have been no events or incidents of significant concern to us in the period since the last SSG.

We have produced a new inspection plan for the financial year 2023 and plan to inspect permit compliance arrangements for the following topic areas:

- Quarter 1: BAT & decision-making
- Quarter 2: Environmental leadership and culture
- Quarter 3: Site drainage and spillage management
- Quarter 4: Follow-up on previous inspections on asset management arrangements and decommissioning strategy

Environmental impact

The site environmental permit requires the operator to monitor and assess the impact of discharges on the environment.

The results of Magnox's environmental monitoring programme continue to be consistent with our independent programme, and do not indicate any results of concern or significant change from previous years.

The Environment Agencies and Food Standards Agency carry out independent environmental monitoring around nuclear sites. These monitoring programmes support our regulatory function and provide reassurance that public radiation exposures are low and within legal limits. The results of this work are published annually and the latest report, "Radioactivity in Food and the Environment 2021" (RIFE 27), is now available on the GOV.UK website.

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/radioactivity-in-food-and-the-environment-rife-reports>

As reported at the previous SSG, data provided in the RIFE report for 2021 show that total doses to the public, from permitted discharges and direct radiation around nuclear sites, remained below the legal limit. Radioactivity from natural background, rather than nuclear sites, continues to be the more significant source of exposure to communities in all areas of the UK. Anthropogenic radioactivity in the environment, from the nuclear industry and from past testing of nuclear weapons, accounts for less than 0.2% of the exposure to the UK population.

Discharges from site

The site's environmental permit requires Magnox to use best available techniques (BAT) to manage its operations and to ensure their impacts on the public and wider environment are minimised. Disposal of wastes – as solids, liquid or gases can only be made via permitted routes or by transfer to permitted sites. Magnox must also carry out a programme of environmental monitoring. A report of the liquid and gaseous discharges to the environment, and the results of the environmental monitoring programme must be submitted to us at quarterly intervals. We assess these against the requirements of the permit and record this in a RASCAR.

Both liquid and gaseous discharges from Berkeley continue to be at levels well within permitted limits for the quarter October to December 2022. (Q4 2022). All discharges were within their 12-month rolling permit limits. Gaseous carbon-14 discharges for the year to December stood at 622 MBq or 12.4% of permit limits. Discharges of all other monitored radionuclides or radionuclide groups were less than 2% of their annual discharge limits.

No adverse (increasing) trends in discharges were identified apart from a slight upward trajectory noted for gaseous carbon-14 in the third quarter of 2022. Carbon-14 emissions appear to have levelled off in Q4 2022, although insufficient time has elapsed to identify any long-term trend. We continue to monitor emission trends and will investigate should significant changes occur.

Enforcement

We have not taken any enforcement actions at Berkeley in the period since the previous SSG meeting.

Further information

The Environment Agency's Lead Regulator for Berkeley Site is Peter Reynolds, based in the Environment Agency's Nuclear Regulation Group (South) (NRG(S)).

NRG(S) is responsible for the environmental regulation of radioactive waste disposals on or from nuclear licensed sites in southern England (and in south Wales, on behalf of Natural Resources Wales). We also work closely with the local Environment Agency teams in Wessex Area in relation to other Environment Agency roles and responsibilities.

Address Environment Agency, Nuclear Regulation Group, Red Kite House,
Howbery Park, Wallingford, Oxfordshire, OX10 8BD

Regulator Email peter.reynolds@environment-agency.gov.uk

A public register service is available on the GOV.UK website at:

<https://environment.data.gov.uk/public-register/view/index>

Alternatively you can request access to public documents directly by contacting the Customers and Engagement Team in the Wallingford office. Please email WTenquiries@environment-agency.gov.uk

Further information on our role in regulating the use of radioactive substances and related activities on nuclear licensed sites can be found on the Environment Agency pages of the Gov.UK website at:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/nuclear-regulation-in-the-environment-agency>

Our enforcement and sanctions policy is publicly available on the GOV.UK website at <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/environment-agency-enforcement-and-sanctions-policy/environment-agency-enforcement-and-sanctions-policy>

Public Health England has placed guidance on ionising radiation dose comparisons on the GOV.UK at:

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Environment Agency Report

Oldbury Site Stakeholder Group

May 2023

This report covers our regulation of Magnox Ltd at Oldbury Site and related issues from January to May 2023.

Radioactive substances regulation

We regulate radioactive waste disposals to the environment. We do this through environmental permits that contain limits and conditions aimed at minimising wastes and protecting the environment. We check compliance with the permits by making regular site inspections.

We also regulate and control other activities through our environmental permits, including surface water discharges to surrounding water bodies and emissions to air.

We record our regulatory compliance interactions in Radioactive Substances Compliance Assessment Reports (RASCARs). These summarise the type of work we have undertaken, describe any non-compliance or observations of good practice, and include actions or recommendations from our findings. They are public register records and can be provided on request. Please see the 'further information' section at the end of this document to find out how to request public register records.

Permitting

Magnox holds a radioactive substances activity permit under the Environmental Permitting Regulations (EPR) at the Oldbury site (EPR/GB3435DG). No changes have been made to the permit since the last SSG meeting.

Compliance activities

We check compliance with the permit by making regular inspections at Oldbury. We issue RASCARs for inspections to summarise the findings of the inspection. This includes any identified non-compliances, actions, recommendations and observations of good practice.

We receive and assess a range of monthly reports from the site. We maintain regular dialogue with the operator to ensure we are kept in touch with any emerging issues at Oldbury and with progress on projects.

We are in regular contact with the Head of Radiological Protection and Environment to ensure we are aware of progress on decommissioning, progress on actions and recommendations and any emerging issues at the site. The Magnox Internal Assessor also joins our meetings.

Since the last SSG we have carried out an inspection of environmental culture and leadership at Oldbury site. We were provided with relevant documentation in advance of the inspection and on the day. We spoke with the Head of Environment, an Environment Team member, and the EHSSQ (Environment Health Safety Security & Quality) Manager. We also interviewed the site's Construction Manager, the Asset Care & Remediation Manager, and an on-site contractor representative. The staff we spoke to were knowledgeable and open to questioning. We found evidence of a strong commitment to

the environment, and of building sustainability into practices at the site. We identified no non-compliances with the site permit.

We attended a quarterly regulatory interface meeting covering the Oldbury, Berkeley and Hinkley Point A sites in March.

We will continue to check compliance with the permit by undertaking inspections. In the coming quarter we intend to inspect management of gaseous discharges at Oldbury.

In addition to our own inspection activities we also review, on a fortnightly basis, Magnox reports of operational events and incidents that have occurred on site. We follow up on these where appropriate. There have been no events or incidents of significant concern to us in the period since the last SSG.

Environmental impact

The site environmental permit requires the operator to monitor and assess the impact of discharges on the environment.

The results of Magnox's environmental monitoring programme (EMP) indicate that the environmental impact from permitted discharges remains low. Magnox's results continue to be consistent with our independent programme, and do not indicate any results of concern or significant change from previous years.

The Environment Agencies and Food Standards Agency carry out independent environmental monitoring around nuclear sites. These monitoring programmes support our regulatory function and provide reassurance that public radiation exposures are low and within legal limits. The results of this work are published annually and the latest report, *Radioactivity in Food and the Environment 2021 (RIFE 27)*, was published on the GOV.UK website in November 2022.

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/radioactivity-in-food-and-the-environment-rife-reports>

The report for 2021 continues to show that total doses to the public, from permitted discharges and direct radiation around nuclear sites, remained below the legal limit. Radioactivity from natural background, rather than nuclear sites, continues to be the more significant source of exposure to communities in all areas of the UK. Radioactivity in the environment, from the nuclear industry and from past testing of nuclear weapons, accounted for less than 0.2% of the exposure to the UK population. Berkeley and Oldbury sites are considered together for the purposes of RIFE because the effects from both sites contribute to the same area.

The RIFE report presents an assessment of annual radiological dose to individuals in the local population who are most exposed to radiation from each nuclear licensed site (known as the 'representative person'). In 2021, the attributed total dose to the representative person from all pathways and sources of radiation from the Oldbury and Berkeley sites combined was 0.013 millisieverts. This is an increase from the last 3 years where the total dose has been less than 0.005 millisieverts. RIFE attributes the increase in dose to direct radiation from the Berkeley site. This is not regulated by the Environment Agency. This equates to approximately 1% of the UK National dose limit (the annual limit for radiation exposure for a member of the public) of 1 millisievert, and 0.5% of the average annual

radiation dose we all receive from all sources including natural sources of radiation (2.7 millisieverts/year).

Further information, including the most recent breakdown of the average individual dose to the UK population by source of exposure, is available on the UKHSA website here <https://www.ukhsa-protectionservices.org.uk/radiationandyou/>

Discharges from site

The site's environmental permit requires Magnox to use best available techniques (BAT) to minimise the generation of radioactive waste, and minimise any permitted releases into the environment. Disposal of wastes, as solids, liquid or gases, can only be made via permitted routes or by transfer to permitted sites. Limits are set in the permit to control the maximum level of radioactivity that can be discharged to the environment as gaseous or liquid discharges over a rolling 12-month period. Reports of the liquid and gaseous discharges to the environment are submitted to us on a monthly basis, and the results of the environmental monitoring programme are submitted quarterly. We assess these against the requirements of the permit and record this in a RASCAR.

Both liquid and gaseous discharges from Oldbury continue to be at levels well within permitted limits. Discharges of all measured gaseous and liquid radionuclides remained below 1% of their relevant annual limits. Although these discharges remain low, it is noted that the relative level of these discharges may fluctuate as the decommissioning programme evolves.

Enforcement

We have not taken any enforcement action at Oldbury in the period since the last SSG meeting.

Further information

A public register service is available on the GOV.UK website at:

<https://environment.data.gov.uk/public-register/view/index>

Alternatively, you can request access to public documents directly by contacting the Customers and Engagement Team in the Wallingford office. Please email WTenquiries@environment-agency.gov.uk

Further information on our role in regulating the use of radioactive substances and related activities on nuclear licensed sites can be found on the Environment Agency pages of the GOV.UK website at:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/nuclear-regulation-in-the-environment-agency>

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The Environment Agency's lead nuclear regulator for the Oldbury site is Rebecca Cleverley. Rebecca is part of the national Nuclear Regulation Group (South) (NRG South) which is based at the Environment Agency's Wallingford office in Oxfordshire.

NRG South undertakes environmental regulation of radioactive substances on nuclear licensed sites in southern England. It works closely with the local Environment Agency teams in those areas as well as external bodies such as the Office for Nuclear Regulation.

Members of the local Wessex Environment Agency team cover the site for general (non-radioactive substances) environment protection matters such as regulation of groundwater, contaminated land, waste management and water abstraction.

Address: Environment Agency, Red Kite House, Howbery Park, Wallingford, Oxfordshire, OX10 8BD

Email: rebecca.cleverley@environment-agency.gov.uk

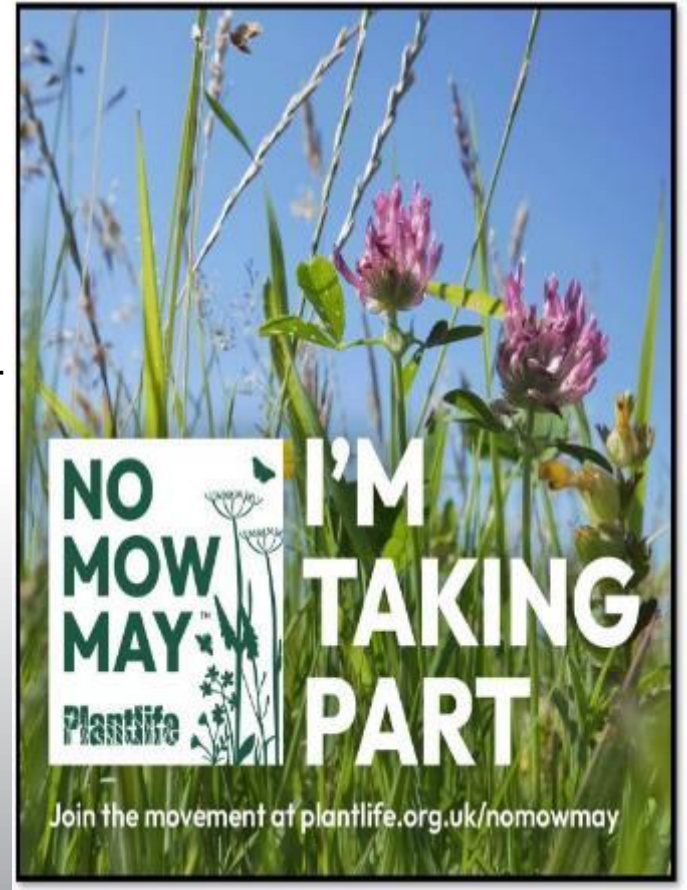
Site Stakeholder Group

11 May 2023



Safety and Environment

- No significant events to report since the last meeting
- Sites will be running a No Mow May campaign. Some designated areas will be left to grow throughout May, notably the meadows on the nature trail at Oldbury.
- The main reason for No Mow May is to improve biodiversity, as longer and healthier areas of grass will attract more wildlife. Nearly 97% of flower rich meadows have been lost since the 1970's and these are vital for pollinators such as bees and butterflies, so by allowing grasses and plants to flower we can give them a great kick-start to May by enabling them to feed on and pollinate wildflowers.



Berkeley Update



Site milestone

- February 2023 saw Berkeley process the first active Sludge Can from Vault 3 through the R4 Retrievals and Processing Plant.
- Vault 3 is full of ~1440 Sludge Cans and ~ 5500 Containers. The Sludge Cans are destined for processing via the R4 Facility and the Containers will be processed via R3.



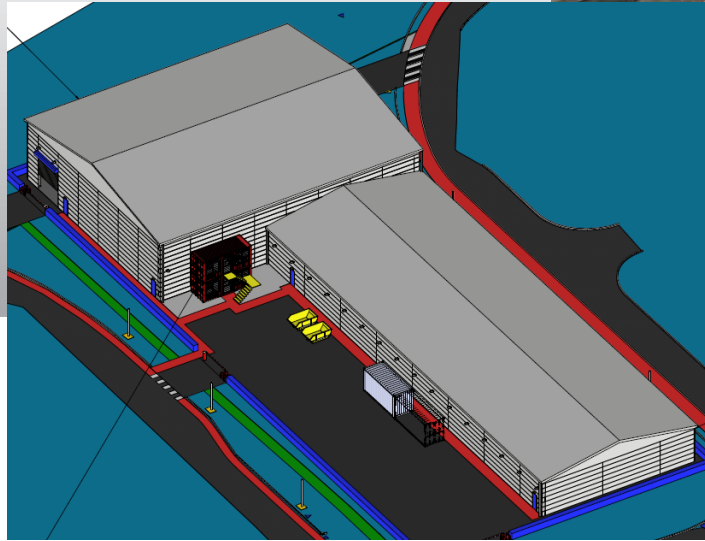
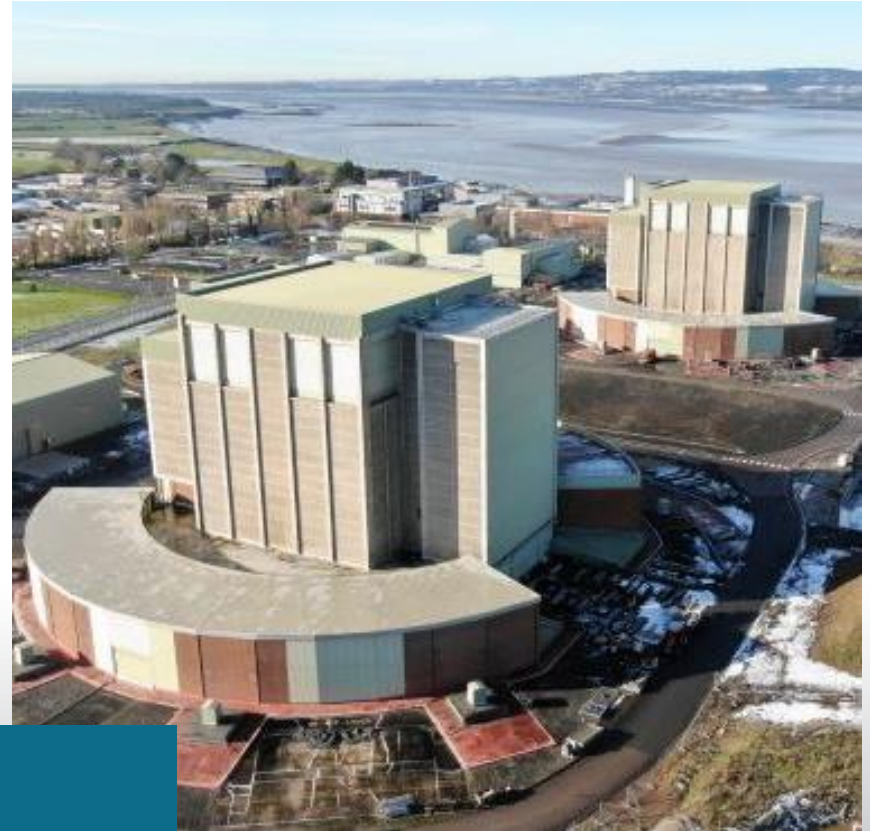
Waste Retrieval Update

- Berkeley site have completed 32 tonnes of ILW retrievals from Vault 1 in 2022/2023 and filled 13 concrete boxes
- Retrievals have recommend for the new financial year with ~ 5 tonnes so far this year against a target of 46.7 tonnes for the year.



Blower House Project

- **Contract 1** (Blower House emptying, remediation and demolition) has been awarded to Altrad Support Services for all works in and around the blower houses supported by Veolia KDC Decommissioning Services
- **Contract 2** (metallic waste management) has been awarded to Nuclear Waste Services and their contractors Augean and NSG. The contractor is now performing their early planning and engineering activities
- Planning applications are also expected for the construction of a temporary waste compound and the change of appearance of the Safestores.



Asset Management – Minor demolition work

Demolition of various structure has been ongoing the last few months.



Oldbury Update



Turbine Hall isolation project



Staff visited areas of the project during recent Launch day on site

- 1914 cables will need to be cut
- Surveys continue
- Total cut to date 123



Site activities - Ponds

- Oldbury site ponds skip crane made its final journey and is now parked up in its resting position, electrical isolation complete and plant redundant after many years of work during generation and the defueling period.
- This is a major milestone for the ponds decommissioning project on site.



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- Following the removal of two acid and caustic tanks and demolition of the bund wall, the area is now ready to start building the intermediate level waste (ILW) retrieval plant.



Apprentices

- Lewis Collins Health Physics apprentice received “Apprentice of the Year – Highly Commended” at the Bridgwater College Apprenticeship & Placement awards held recently.
- Further new apprentices will be appointed this year and will start in September.



Donations from site to the local community

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- Blood donation centre – Oldbury site are having conversations with NHS Blood donation organisation to arrange a blood donation day to be held at the OCC where staff and local people could get involved



Magnox Socio-economic Funding Support 2022 – 2023

£1,020,035 available across all 12 Magnox sites

£572,540 allocated across all Magnox sites

10 Berkeley funding requests totalling £20,485

6 Oldbury funding requests totalling £37,182



Soc-ec 2023-24:

- Magnox Soc-ec Funding remains at £1,020,035 with £302,958 multi year funding already committed
- **Good Neighbour funding £2,000** per application; however £6,000 allocation per site remains unchanged
- Remember, if you are applying for funding, you must be a constituted organisation and provide quotes for the items you are requesting.
Look at the website below for more information (scroll down to Magnox socio-economic scheme funding guidance 2022)

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- *Please feel free to contact Eirian or Haf to discuss any potential applications (details on the above website)*
- Eirian Vaughan Lewis looks after Good Neighbour applications for Berkeley and Oldbury
- Applications over £2,000 by Haf Morris (Haf.e.morris@magnoxsites.com)



Please note:

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 which was 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.

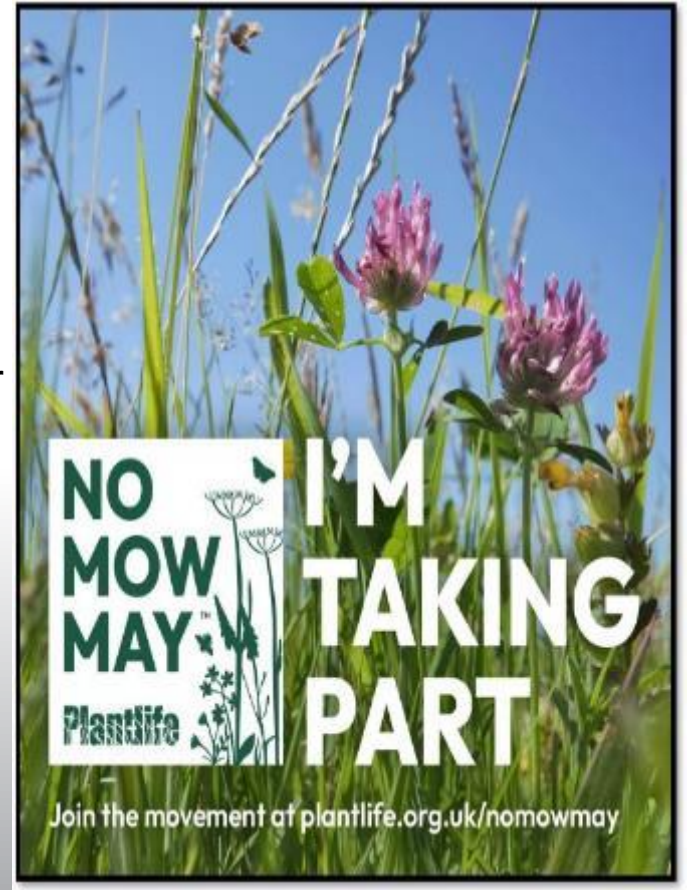
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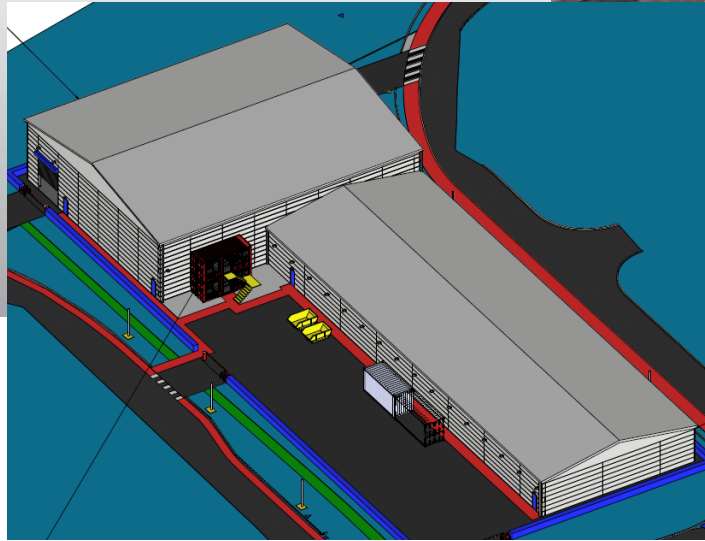
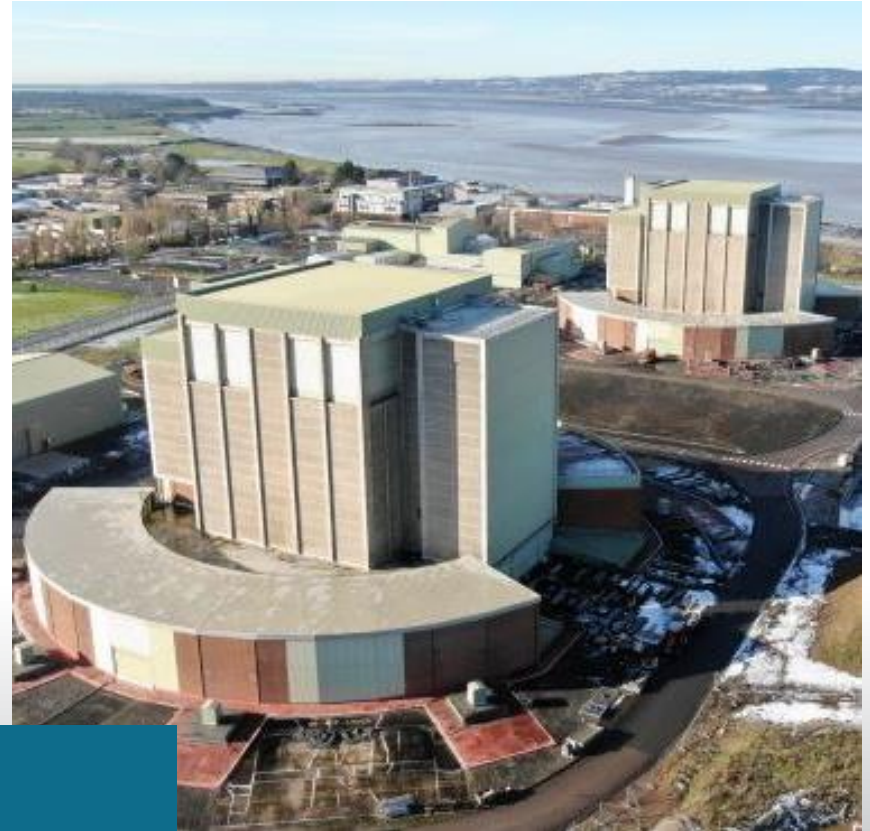
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