



Chapelcross Site Stakeholder Group

AGENDA

**Agenda for the SSG meeting to be held on Wednesday 9 August 2023
D&G Council Chambers, Annan Town Hall, Annan at 10am.**

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- 1. (10:00 – 10:02) Chairman's welcome**
 - 2. (10:03 – 10:05) Announcements and apologies (*including any Declarations of Interest*)**
 - 3. (10:06 – 10:08) Minutes of previous meeting and Matters Arising**
 - 4. (10:09 – 10:10) Request by Restoring Annan Water – SSG Member**
 - 5. (10:11 – 10:30) Chapelcross Site Closure Director's Report (*including update on Magnox Socio-Economic Scheme*)- *Richard Murray, Chapelcross Site Director.***
 - 6. (10.31 – 10:45) NDA Update – *David Wallace / Gillian Elliott NDA***
 - 7. (10.46 – 11:16) Other reports from SSG bodies - ONR, SEPA, Scottish Government**
 - 8. (11:17 – 11:24) External Meetings and Invitations
*NDA / Magnox meeting of UK SSG Chairs and Vice Chairs in London on 23 June 2023***
 - 9. (11:25– 11:40) CX Project Update – *Helen Emberson, CX Programme Lead***
 - 10. (11:41 – 11:51) Any Other Business**
 - 11. (11:52 – 12:00) Public Forum**

Next Meeting - 10am, Wednesday 29 November 2023



Chapelcross Site Stakeholder Group

**Minutes of the Meeting held on Wednesday 19 April 2023 at 10.00 am
D&G Council Chambers, Annan Town Hall, High Street, Annan, DG12 6AQ**

Present:

Mr Neil Carruthers (The Royal Burgh of Annan Community Council)
Mr Dan Couldridge (Scottish Government)
Cllr Archie Dryburgh MBE (representing Annandale East and Eskdale) (Chair)
Ms Helen Emberson (Dumfries and Galloway Council, CX Programme Lead)
Cllr Lynne Davis (representing Annandale North)
Ms Diane Hamilton (Scottish Government)
Cllr George Jamieson (representing Annandale South) (Vice Chair)
Sean Marshall (Magnox Communications / SSG Secretariat)
Ms Carol Midwood (Federation of Community Councils / Canonbie and District CC)
Ms Jaime Nicholson (Dumfries and Galloway Council, Ward Officer Annandale South)
Mr Willie McNairn (2km Resident Representative)
Mr Richard Murray (Chapelcross Site Director)
Mr David Wallace (NDA)

In Attendance:

Ms Sheila Adams (Minutes)
Mr Peter Dreghorn (Restoring Annan's Water)

Apologies:

Mrs Jill Callander (SSG Secretariat)
Cllr Ian Carruthers (Annandale South)
Mr Rowland Cook (ONR)
Mr Quintin Donald (Rural Payments and Inspections Directorate)
Mr Bill Hamilton (Magnox, Director of External Affairs)
Mr Colin Hargreaves (Magnox, EHSS&Q Inspector)
Cllr Denis Male (Annandale East and Eskdale)
Rt Hon David Mundell MP
Mr Oliver Mundell MSP
Mr Ian Park (Magnox Trade Union Representative)
Dr David Stone (SEPA)
Cllr Stephen Thompson (Annandale North)
Cllr Carolyne Wilson (Annandale North)

1. Chairman's Welcome

Cllr Dryburgh was pleased to see a good attendance and welcomed everyone to the meeting.

2. Announcements and Apologies (*including Declarations of Interest*)

Sean Marshall read out the Apologies as listed above.

Mr Carruthers confirmed that he is employed by Magnox Limited and was attending the meeting as a representative of the Royal Burgh of Annan Community Council. Sean Marshall pointed out that he usually attends the meeting as a Councillor representing Annandale South but on this occasion he was attending as a Magnox employee, on behalf of the Secretariat.

3. Minutes of Previous Meeting and Matters Arising

The Minutes of the meeting of 16 November 2022 were approved as a true record and proposed as such by Mr Willie McNairn and seconded by Cllr Lynne Davis.

Action points from the last meeting

- Secretariat to produce glossary of common nuclear acronyms for new members – carried forward.
- Secretariat to arrange site visit for Site Stakeholder Group members wishing to attend – previous attempts to arrange had had to be postponed. A visit will be arranged for summer, likely August, on which details will be forwarded nearer the time - carry forward.

Cllr Dryburgh thanked Sean Marshall and Cllr Jamieson for their input on the Sub Group to respond to consultations, more information on which was included with meeting papers.

4. Chapelcross Site Closure Report – Mr Richard Murray *(including update on Magnox Socio-Economic Scheme)*

Mr Murray gave an update under the headings of EHSS&Q Performance, Site News, Programme Update and Socio-Economic Update.

Mr Murray was pleased to report again on a good safety performance in the financial year, with the site having no significant first aid events. The Total Recordable Incident Rate (TRIR) remains at zero. There had been no significant safety events in the period and Mr Murray was proud of the significantly improved safety performance in the last twelve months, particularly when the work is high hazard. A revised Site Security Plan was approved by the regulator, ONR, first time round.

Performance at the end of the financial year showed six Mosaiks retrieved; 36 CXPP 500litre drums filled and transferred to the Intermediate Level Waste (ILW) store; 19 waste shipments dispatched; legacy waste reduced by 187m³; and £3.9M spent on asset care to keep the structure of the site safe. Mr Murray ran through the targets for the new financial year: 8 Mac and Cobalt Mosaiks to be retrieved to the ILW store; 52 CXPP drums to be filled and transferred to the ILW store; design to be completed for the cooling tower land remediation; commence inactive commissioning of the Zeolite skip retrieval process; £3.4M of asset care improvements to be delivered.

Under staffing, the site has lost a number of people to retirement, with six leaving in the last week of the financial year. The site is pleased to be recruiting locally and seeing fresh impetus and rejuvenation but at the same time is losing experienced personnel. Mr Murray gave examples of the roles recently recruited and those currently being recruited.

Planning consultation for a 10MW Solar Farm with 4MWhr battery will begin in May for the south west corner of the licensed site. This would feed the site with the excess sleeved to supply other Magnox sites. The ambition is for the site to be carbon neutral and see a significant cost reduction.

Under CXPP Decommissioning, Mr Murray explained the process with photos of the Intermediate Level Waste (ILW) retrievals. 27 of 34 Mosaiks have been taken from the ponds and this work will recommence in June.

900 tons of non-active waste such as concrete blocks and vehicles have been removed, which has had a significant impact visually, which can be seen from the difference in Google map images and recent drone footage.

Under Ponds Decommissioning, Mr Murray explained the photos of Zeolite Overpacks, Modular Active Effluent Plant and pond skips. Under Land Remediation, many people would recall the demolition of the cooling towers on 20 May 2007, which had left a concrete legacy waste issue. Water could not drain and water run-off sat on the concrete, which has been treated to neutralise. Various solutions are now being considered, with re-use of the rubble from the basins as capping on one of the vaults at the NWS Drigg site in Cumbria being the preferred option. Design work will be done this year with the work starting next summer.

The 3.9M spent on Asset Care during the financial year included the installation of new welfare cabins; site wide pedestrian access improvements; asbestos remediation; refurbishment of canteen, main admin kitchens and gatehouse; reactor building roofs and handrails replaced. This financial year will see improvements to the reactor windows; cladding and security systems and replacement of the site's water supply which is not currently drinkable due to degradation of the pipework.

During 2022/23, £572,540 was committed under the Socio Economic Scheme to support 79 projects, across the twelve sites. Locally, Annan Riding of the Marches received funding, as did Annan Petanque Club and Annan History Group.

Questions and Observations

Cllr Jamieson referred to the Solar Farm and asked that brownfield areas are prioritised and not greenfield. Mr Murray confirmed that the location is on a brownfield site.

Cllr Dryburgh was pleased to hear of a re-use solution for the concrete but noted the environmental concerns and asked how it would get to the Low Level Repository in Drigg. Mr Murray agreed that a balance is required. There is approximately 500 lorry loads of material, which would be taken to a railway siding to be transported to Workington by rail. Vehicles will be required on site to get it to the railway in the first instance.

5. NDA Update – Mr David Wallace

The NDA report provided in the meeting papers was taken as read and Mr Wallace highlighted key points. The UK Government's new Minister for Nuclear and Networks is Scottish MP, Andrew Bowie. The NDA has had some good meetings with Mr Bowie, who is working a series of visits to sites into his timetable. The new Permanent Secretary for the Department for Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy (BEIS) is Clive Maxwell CBE with Jeremy Pocklington CB as Permanent Secretary of the Department for Energy Security and Net Zero.

Mr Wallace advised that an invitation from NDA would be issued the following week to the regional Stakeholder Summit. The NDA has responded to feedback that it should be more proactive on decommissioning stories and how it is using innovation. The NDA has partnered with academia to arrange two workshops – one in West Cumbria on 8 June 2023 and one in Glasgow on 28 June, working with the University of Strathclyde. The Summit will demonstrate how the NDA is using innovation to support decommissioning. The one day events will last from 9.30 am – 4.00 pm.

Dounreay joined the Magnox Estate on 1 April 2023 and the NDA is working closely with Dounreay, Magnox, Sellafield, Nuclear Waste Services and Nuclear Transport Solutions. The UK Government has made a commitment to Great British Nuclear, the Interim Chief Executive of which will be Gwen Parry-Jones from May 2023 for twelve months. The NDA will work closely with Great British Nuclear, which plans to use NDA land.

The UK Government has started a twelve week consultation period on decommissioning and waste management, in conjunction with devolved administrations. An initial consultation session was arranged for Chairs and Vice Chairs on 29 March and there will be continued dialogue.

Mr Wallace expected the final version of the draft Business Plan to be published the following day and will arrange for this to be circulated to members.

A number of changes have taken place within Scottish Government since the SNP leadership campaign but it was hoped that Mairi McAllan would remain as Cabinet Secretary for Net Zero and Just Transition.

Questions and Observations

Cllr Jamieson had attended the Chairs and Vice Chairs meeting and would read his notes and get back to Mr Wallace with any questions and welcomed feedback on how the decommissioning and waste management consultation would affect Chapelcross.

Cllr Dryburgh noted Jamie Reed's response to Chairs at the meeting and asked that he attend the next Site Stakeholder Group meeting.

- **Action – Invite extended to Mr Reed, NDA Director of Socio Economics, to the next Chapelcross Site Stakeholder Group meeting.**

6. Other reports from SSG Bodies – ONR, SEPA, Scottish Government

ONR –

The ONR report was circulated with the meeting papers and taken as read. Mr Cook was not present at the meeting.

SEPA –

The SEPA report was circulated with the meeting papers and taken as read. Dr Stone was not present at the meeting.

Scottish Government – Ms Diane Hamilton

The Scottish Government report circulated with the meeting papers was taken as read. Ms Hamilton confirmed that Mairi McAllan MSP will remain the Cabinet Secretary for Net Zero and Just Transition. Ms Hamilton thanked Mr Murray and Chapelcross site for hosting a site visit for herself and Martin Macdonald in January.

Ms Hamilton gave a brief presentation on Higher Activity Waste Programme of Work – Direction of Travel. The Scottish Government's Higher Activity Waste (HAW) Implementation Strategy was published in 2016, with a series of commitments. A Work Programme is being developed which defines specific work streams to deliver against the commitments in the Strategy. An example of some of topics in the Programme include: lifecycle management; technical challenges of some waste; research and development; stakeholder communication. Scottish Government will collaborate and engage with stakeholders, including Site Stakeholder Groups, throughout the development of the Work Programme.

A high level strategic and technical piece of work started on Near-Surface Disposal (NSD) in June 2022. This work will assess potential credible NSD concepts that may be suitable for the disposal of HAW generated in Scotland. The project assesses different areas such as waste inventory, site characteristics, environmental safety requirements, regulatory requirements etc. The main assumption for this work is the interpretation of 'near-site' from the HAW Policy. For the NSD project **only**, a literal interpretation has been taken and Scottish Government is looking at the current nuclear licensed sites in Scotland (Chapelcross, Dounreay, Hunterston and Torness) and land adjacent to the sites, within a 2km radius.

The NSD project **will not** make any decisions on a final disposal concept or location of a facility. This is the first project of many that will be required to understand NSD in Scotland and further work will be required to move NSD forward, after this initial research. Final outcomes of this initial work are expected in summer 2023 and Scottish Government will continue to keep stakeholders updated as work develops. Laura Hogg's secondment from NDA ended in December 2022 but she remains joint lead for this project for NDA, along with Martin Macdonald of Scottish Government.

Questions and Observations

Cllr Dryburgh asked if one site was being considered for the Near-Site Disposal or a range of sites. Mr Couldridge clarified that this is conceptual work, looking at a range of sites and Scottish Government is not looking to identify any particular site at this stage.

Cllr Jamieson was confused about how there could only be one 'near site' and looked forward to this question being answered at some point in the future. Ms Hamilton reiterated the literal definition being taken by Scottish Government, looking at the four sites, and stressed that this is a multi-decade programme of work.

Any further questions may be emailed to the Secretariat for submission to Scottish Government.

7. External Meetings and Invitations – *Magnox SSG Chairs and Vice Chairs Meeting Meeting with DEPNZ regarding Current Policy Consultation*

As a layman in terms of the nuclear industry, Cllr Jamieson shared his notes from the online meeting with Site Stakeholder Groups and the UK and devolved administration officials on the recent current policy consultation. Cllr Jamieson considered it important that communications are trusted and understandable.

There is a new / extended hierarchy of risk. Any new sites must have a policy for nuclear decommissioning. Spent Fuel Management Policy is being updated and Uranium Policy. Flexibility is required to accommodate diversity of contaminations. This relates to England and Wales as Scotland has its own policy. Around 2% of rubble **will be** contaminated but low or very low risk. Lightly contaminated rubble can be used for roads on site, where a licence is secured. Environmental agency approval is needed and there must be less risk than leaving alone and left on-site for a purpose, for re-use. Benefits suggested are innovation, cost savings, consistency to management of solid radioactive waste and speed of clean up. Potential risks are poor communications, complications with various agencies, cost benefits trumping safety and new technology overtaking current technology.

Cllr Jamieson had raised the subject of appropriate communication, asking that it is jargon free and objective, to ensure that locals understand the concept, with no presumption of prior knowledge to avoid misunderstanding, which could undermine sensible policies.

The ambition is to have a common theme and policy across the UK, while respecting devolved nuances. Scotland will have its own policy but as far as possible will be in line with England and Wales.

Cllr Dryburgh referred to the Chairs and Vice Chairs Site Stakeholder Groups meeting on 2 May in London on rebranding, which neither he nor Cllr Jamieson are able to attend in person and he had hoped that this would be held online. Mr Hamilton had previously said that the decision would be a Company one but communities would be involved in the process. Mr Murray added that Magnox as a Company is doing a lot of work on rebranding and taking a wide range of views from stakeholders, staff, etc. Cllr Dryburgh noted that changes to logo etc would take place over a period of time.

8. CX Project Update – Ms Helen Emberson

The CX project update report circulated with the meeting papers was taken as read. Ms Emberson confirmed that the site is now being actively marketed and a link to the formal marketing could be found in the report. The enquiries, requirements, service demands etc, are now understood and a transport assessment is being commissioned.

Chapelcross has been included as a regional Hydrogen Hub in Scottish Government policy documents, which has given it more visibility. Scottish Government has also included Chapelcross as a national development site within its Planning Framework. The CX project team is liaising with Scottish Futures Trust to compile baseline information. A script has been drafted to showcase the site and region to an international audience for development. Provided funding can be secured, filming will take place during summer 2023 for subsequent use by Scottish Government in attracting overseas investment.

The Programme Board was due to meet that afternoon. The NDA is working on decommissioning the land for development, through its Legal and Commercial teams. Skills and Development workstreams are being progressed, linked in with Borderlands. This could generate a number of jobs but it is important not to displace local organisations.

Questions and Observations

Mr McNairn noted that there was some difficulty in establishing who owned the land around Chapelcross at the last meeting and asked if this was now known. Ms Emberson responded that title searches are being conducted and once it is established what is needed in terms of service, conversations will start with landowners.

Mr McNairn asked who the land was sold off to in 1967/68. He referred to repercussions of drainage blocked off from pieces of land as there was nowhere for the water to run off. Sean Marshall recalled that he had attended a site meeting with the former Site Director, Dave Wilson many years ago. Mr McNairn explained the history and wants to know who owns the land now. Mr Wallace undertook to take this back to NDA for further investigation, if Mr McNairn furnishes him with the details.

- **Action – Mr McNairn to email Mr Wallace and Cllr Marshall background information on the land in question to enable further investigation to be done by NDA and its Land Agents.**

Cllr Jamieson noted that the wider issue is that it has to be ensured that whatever is done at Chapelcross does not have repercussions or a wider impact for others.

Cllr Dryburgh asked Ms Emberson how far away a final Business Case is from being ready. Ms Emberson replied that a final Business Case will go to Borderlands in March 2024 for approval. Cllr Dryburgh asked if the infrastructure would be dealt with before then and Ms Emberson confirmed that this needs to happen first.

Cllr Dryburgh was pleased to note the shift from Shadow Programme Board to Full Programme Board with the creation of an Advisory Board. Both Cllr Dryburgh and Mr Wallace were particularly pleased that Joanna Campbell, Dumfries and Galloway College Principal, has accepted a place on the Board to progress skills and trades. Cllr Dryburgh further noted the range of education and training and the need for a Centre of Excellence / training establishment on site. The wider implications of 1,500 jobs on site however would be housing, schooling, etc.

Cllr Jamieson again stressed the importance of working with education and economic resources to provide pathways for children and give them direction. Although SRUC is more peripheral, it is broadening its curriculum and may be a beneficial link in terms of environment, technology, etc. Mr Wallace hoped that Ms Campbell would be a conduit to networking with other training establishments.

9. Any Other Business

There were no other items of business raised.

10. Public Forum

The Chair introduced Mr Peter Dreghorn, Chair of Restoring Annan's Water (RAW), who had requested to attend the meeting to discuss Milnbie Weir.

Mr Dreghorn read the following statement:

“Large artificial impoundments like Milnbie Caul are considered to be highly damaging, turning riverine habitat into artificial stillwater, fragmenting the remaining habitat, interrupting the natural transit of bed material and degrading substrate habitat within the impounded reach. The Caul impedes fish movement, both upstream spawning migrations and vital dispersal movements around the catchment, increasing mortality rates and reducing recruitment of many native species, including trout, salmon, eel and lamprey. Obstructions like Milnbie have also been shown to cause significant delays and increased mortality of downstream migrating smolts, at what is a pivotal phase of the migratory salmonid lifecycle.

Atlantic salmon and sea trout populations are already under incredible pressure throughout their native range, from pollution, intensification of agriculture and aquaculture, and climate change, with survival rates in-river and at sea now far lower than historic levels. Unnecessarily increased mortality at redundant weirs just adds to the already significant issues faced.

Most major weirs were created at a time when the ecological harm they cause was not understood, unlike today when the creation of such features is unlikely to even be permissible. Dependent infrastructure often prevents or complicates removal, but that is not the case for Milnbie Caul, where the obsolete structure no longer serves its original purpose. There is now an important opportunity to redress the many years of harm the structure has already inflicted upon the River Annan and its migratory fish populations. For this reason, full removal of the Caul is a vital action for the River Annan. Removing the Caul is not just about weir removal or fish passage, this is about restoring the natural habitat and river processes in this important river catchment, to benefit the threatened native species that should be allowed to thrive there.

Stakeholders agreed to put an Eel pass on the Caul. Apparently this is an interim measure in case Chapelcross renewable energy needs to abstract water again from the Annan.

Stakeholders commissioned a 200 page report from Avison Young regarding the impact on flooding and geomorphology on the river once the Caul was removed. It concluded that there would be little impact on the environment and flooding. The river is downgraded from good to poor purely on the basis of this barrier to fish passage and the ecosystem thereabouts.

RAW notes that the NDA, as well as decommissioning these two sites, is also restoring the environment, for example, the coastal woodland establishment on the coast of West Cumbria. Therefore RAW proposes that the NDA and Stakeholders, fully decommission the Milnbie Caul following its disuse by removing it. RAW would work as partner in restoring the riparian woodland environment surrounding the works and ensuring the geomorphology was naturalised.”

Questions and Observations

Cllr Dryburgh noted the Site Stakeholder Group had previously discussed and consulted on the Eel ladder and retaining Milnbie Weir. The Site Stakeholder Group suggests that there may be a future requirement for water extraction due to the CX Project and the future development of the Chapelcross site.

Mr Dreghorn asked if RAW could engage with the NDA about removal of the weir. Mr Wallace advised that the NDA has responded to communication and has taken into account a range of stakeholder views on the subject. While he agreed that Mr Dreghorn's views were valid, he noted the need to take all views into consideration and ensured Mr Dreghorn that the NDA welcomes engagement from all.

Mr Dreghorn asked if the River Annan Trust was a stakeholder on the Site Stakeholder Group. Seanr Marshall confirmed that River Annan Trust was not a formal member of the Site Stakeholder Group and attendance at meetings would have been as a member of the public. Mr Dreghorn asked how it was possible to become a stakeholder member of the Group. Cllr Dryburgh replied that the Constitution of the Site Stakeholder Group undergoes review every five years, with the next review being due in 2026/27. Sean Marshall explained that the process for requesting membership of the Site Stakeholder Group is by way of a formal written request from a constituted group with an interest in Chapelcross, to the Site Stakeholder Group Secretariat. The request will be considered by voting members at the next Site Stakeholder Group meeting. Mr Wallace added that a group does not have to be a formal Site Stakeholder Group member to be a stakeholder as neighbours and people with an interest in Chapelcross are already regarded as stakeholders. Mr Wallace further added that Avison Young would report back on any communication to the NDA.

11. Next Meeting – Wednesday 19 April 2023

The next meeting will be held on Wednesday, 9 August 2023, with the final meeting of the year being on Wednesday, 22 November 2023.

Cllr Dryburgh thanked everyone for attending the meeting and brought it to a close at 11.15 pm.

**CHAPELCROSS SITE STAKEHOLDER GROUP
SUMMARY OF KEY POINTS FROM THE MEETING
WEDNESDAY 19 APRIL 2023 AT 10.00 AM IN COUNCIL CHAMBERS, TOWN HALL, ANNAN**

Chairman's Welcome, Announcements and Apologies

Cllr Dyrburgh welcomed everyone to the meeting. Sean Marshall read the apologies. There were no announcements.

Minutes of Previous Meeting and Matters Arising

The Minutes of the meeting of 16 November 2022 were approved. The site visit for members had had to be postponed for various reasons and would be rescheduled in summer 2023.

Chapelcross Site Closure Director's Report – Mr Richard Murray

Mr Murray was pleased to report on a good safety performance in the financial year, with the site having no significant first aid events. The Total Recordable Incident Rate (TRIR) remains at zero. A Revised Site Security Plan was approved by the regulator, ONR. Mr Murray recapped on performance in the last financial year and showed photos to explain progress, as well as outlining targets and activity for the new financial year. The site has lost a number of people to retirement but is pleased to be recruiting locally. Planning consultation for a 10MW Solar Farm with 4MWhr battery will begin in May for the south west corner of the licensed site. This would feed 40% to the site with the excess sleeved to supply other Magnox. During 2022/23, £572,540 was committed under the Socio Economic Scheme to support 79 projects, across the twelve sites.

NDA Report – Mr David Wallace

The UK Government's new Minister for Nuclear and Networks is Scottish MP, Andrew Bowie, who is working a series of visits to sites into his timetable. The NDA has arranged two workshops – one in West Cumbria on 8 June 2023 and one in Glasgow on 28 June, working with University of Strathclyde. The Summit will demonstrate how the NDA is using innovation to support decommissioning. The one day events will last from 9.30 – 4.00. Dounreay joined the Magnox Estate on 1 April 2023. The UK Government has made a commitment to Great British Nuclear – Gwen Parry-Jones will be Interim Chief. The UK Government has started a 12 week consultation period on decommissioning and waste management, in conjunction with devolved administrations.

ONR Report –

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

SEPA Report –

The SEPA report was circulated with meeting papers. Dr Stone was not present at the meeting.

Update from Scottish Government – Ms Diane Hamilton, Mr Dan Couldridge

Mairi McAllan MSP will remain the Cabinet Secretary for Net Zero and Just Transition. Ms Hamilton gave a brief presentation on Scottish Government's Higher Activity Waste Programme of Work – Direction of Travel. A high level strategic and technical piece of work has started on Near-Surface Disposal. The NSD project is a multi-decade project and SG **will not** make any decisions on a final disposal concept or location of a facility.

CX Project Update – Ms Helen Emberson

The site is being actively marketed. A transport assessment is being commissioned. Chapelcross has been included as a regional Hydrogen Hub in Scottish Government policy documents and is also included as a national development site within SG's Planning Framework. There is now a Full Programme Board. The full Business Case will be presented to Borderlands by March 2024.

External Meetings and Invitations – Cllr Archie Dryburgh, Cllr George Jamieson

Magnox SSG Chairs and Vice Chairs Meeting

Meeting with DEPNZ regarding Current Policy Consultation

The Chair and Vice Chair gave an update on the meetings attended.

Public Forum

Mr Peter Dreghorn, Chair of Restoring Annan's Water, gave a brief presentation and requested that NDA fully decommissions the Milnbie Caul following its disuse by removing it. RAW would work as partner in restoring the riparian woodland environment surrounding the works and ensuring the geomorphology was naturalised. The NDA will consider all views. The SSG has taken the view that Milnbie Weir should be retained as there may be a future requirement for water extraction.

Any Other Business – no other items of business raised.

Questions and Observations

After each presentation, a number of questions were asked by members, which can be read with the responses, in the full Minutes of the meeting, available from the SSG Secretariat.

Next Meeting – Wednesday 9 August 2023 at 10.00 am in Annan Town Hall.

Actions from Chapelcross SSG Meetings

Action (COMPLETE) – Invite to be extended to Jamie Reed, NDA Director of Socio Economics, to the next Chapelcross Site Stakeholder Group meeting.

Response – *Mr Reed has been contacted but cannot attend the meeting on Wednesday 9 August due to other commitments, but can attend the Chapelcross SSG Meeting on Wednesday 29 November 2023.*

Action (COMPLETE) - Mr McNairn to email Mr Wallace and Sean Marshall background information on the land in question to enable further investigation to be done by NDA and its Land Agents.

Response – *Mr McNairn has provided the information and ongoing discussions with NDA are taking place.*

Action (ONGOING) – Secretariat to arrange site visit for Site Stakeholder Group members wishing to attend – previous attempts to arrange had to be postponed. A visit will be arranged for summer, likely August, on which details will be forwarded nearer the time.

Response – *Due to a proposed number of changes and amendments to the Chapelcross SSG membership it is recommended that a visit to Chapelcross be arranged once all these membership changes and amendments have taken place.*

Action (COMPLETE) – Secretariat to produce glossary of common nuclear acronyms for new members.

Response - *A table is listed below*

Magnox / Nuclear Acronymns

1197	Fuel element road transport flask prior to Magnox M2
AACP	Alternative Access Control Point
ACB	Air Circuit Breaker
ACP	Access Control Point
AECC	Alternative Access Control Point
ALARP	As Low As Reasonably Practicable
ASME	American Society of Mechanical Engineers
BCDG	Burst Cartridge Detection Gear
BMG	Basic Methodology Guidelines
BPEO	Best Practicable Environmental Option
BPM	Best Practicable Means
CGO	Channel Gas Outlet
COSR	Continued Operations Safety Review
CRM	Control Rod Mechanism
CXPP	Chapelcross Processing Plant
DAR	Design Assessment Report
DCPDB	Direct Current Power Distribution Board
DSC	Defuelling Safety Case
EACP	Emergency Access Control Point
ECC	Emergency Control Centre

ECR	Electrical Control Room
ECRT	Electrical Control Room Technician
EPGMS	Emergency Plume Gamma Monitoring System
ESSR	Engineering Safety Substantiation Report
FE	Fuel Element
FHIS	Fault, Hazard and Interlock Schedule
FLT	Fork Lift Truck
FRTTP	Fuel Route Transition Project
GSRV	Gas Safety Relief Valve
HHISO	Half-Height Isofreight Container
HSE	Health and Safety Executive
ILW	Intermediate Level Waste
IMP	Isolated Measurement Pods
IOP	Iodine Absorption Plant
ISB	Inner Security Barrier
LBH	Long Blower House
LLW	Low Level Waste
LLWR	Low Level Waste Repository
MAC	Miscellaneous Activated Components
MAR	Mercury Arc Rectifier
MBGWS	Miscellaneous Beta Gamma Waste Store
MDU	Magnox Depleted Uranium
MFRSCG	Magnox Fuel Route Safety Case Guidelines
MMS	Manual Measuring Socket(s)
MSRP	Minimum Safety-Related Plant
MTBF	Mean Time Between Failures
NII	Nuclear Installations Inspectorate
NSD	Nuclear Safety Directorate
NSPs	Nuclear Safety Principles
PCAC	Pressure Circuit Advisory Committee
PCSR	Pre-commencement Safety Report
PIC	PIPPA Isotope Cartridge
PRDO	Produced by Risley Design Office
PSR	Preliminary Safety Report Periodic Safety Review
PDF	Probability of Failure on Demand
PFFHA	Peak Free Field Horizontal Acceleration
PMS	Plant Maintenance Schedule
POCO	Post-Operational Clean Out
PSA	Probabilistic Safety Assessment
PSTL	Plant Surveillance Team Leader
PSTSE	Plant Systems Technical Support Engineer
RCC	Reactivity Control Cartridge
RCR	Reactor Control Room
RDL	Reactor Data Logger
RPA0	Radiological Protection Adviser
RPV	Reactor Pressure Vessel
RWMF	Radioactive Waste Management Facility
SAPs	Safety Assessment Principles
SBH	Short Blower House
SCADA	Supervisory Control and Data Acquisition
SRG	Safety Review Guidebook (for Gas-Cooled Reactors)
SRSS	Schedule of Reference Safety Statements
SSCs	Systems, Structures and Components
TSV	Temporary Storage Vessel
UPS	Uninterruptible Power Supply
WAMAC	Waste Assay, Monitoring and Compaction
XSRM	Excess Shutdown Reactivity Margin

NDA Update

CPX SSG – August 2023

UK Government

- Great British Nuclear launched. CEO is former Magnox CEO Gwenn Parry-Jones.
- First priority to identify preferred options for SMRs.
- NDA will support where requested, however, GBN will be first port of call on new nuclear matters rather than NDA.

NDA/Scottish Government

- New NDA secondment into Radioactive Waste Substances Team agreed.
- Oli Smith, currently working with the Magnox Waste Team, will commence August 2023.
- Follows successful initial secondment during 2022.
- Secondment will provide technical input and expertise into policy development on radioactive waste and build wider strategic relationships between NDA and Scottish Government.

Regional Stakeholder events

- Regional Innovation Roadshows held during June 2023 in Glasgow and West Cumbria.
- Over 200 stakeholders attended both.
- Glasgow event hosted by University of Strathclyde and attended by stakeholders such as Scottish Government, Regulators (ONR and SEPA), Academia, SSG members, supply chain, and students from various Universities around the country.
- Chance to highlight how NDA is using Innovation and Technology to meet decommissioning challenges.
- CPX featured heavily with presentation by Richard Murray, Site Director, on 'Re-use, Re-purposing, Supporting Regeneration' and local MSP Oliver Mundell MSP featuring in panel session at close of day.
- Next Innovation Roadshow will be at Bangor University in October, with expected date for Virtual Summit November 2023.

Spot the Dog

- Robotics are coming into their own at our sites. Spot the dog has become a regular feature at Sellafield and Dounreay.
- The safety benefits are clear – this takes humans out of the hazardous area, reducing the risks to operators.
- But there are time and cost efficiencies too. Spot can work in these areas much longer than a human could safely do, halving predicted costs while markedly reducing the waste generated from protective gear.

The Global Dimension

- Decommissioning of nuclear facilities is not just a UK challenge. Most industrialised countries have a nuclear legacy and working together is a vital part of tackling the issue.
- Leaders from the US, Canada and France – together with NDA – recently committed to continuing their long-standing collaboration of clean-up of nuclear legacy sites. The sharing of best practice and technical development has been taking place over three decades.
- The UK is currently hosting a tri-lateral between UK, US and Canada, working on further collaboration between the parties.

Funding the Future

- 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.

Berkeley Blower House

- Magnox is ready to start a major decommissioning project to clean-up and demolish four 'blower house' superstructures at Berkeley site. Total contract value is £35 million.
- NDA operating company, Nuclear Waste Services (NWS) were awarded £13.7m contract to manage 2,400 tonnes of metallic waste.
- The high-quality steel removed will be treated, recycled and returned to the metals market for reuse.

NDA Annual Report and Accounts

- To be published after UK Parliamentary recess (September 2023)

NDA Socio-Economic Refresh

- NDA Socio-Economic Team will be contacting SSGs imminently to consult on refresh of current NDA Socio-Economic Strategy.
- Contact for information is: andrew.harper@nda.gov.uk

NDA Chair

- Dr Ros Rivaz stands down as NDA Chair at end of August 2023.
- New Interim Chair will be Chris Train, current NDA Non-Executive Director, who will commence role on September 1st 2023.

ENDS

David Wallace – NDA Stakeholder and Government Relations Lead, Scotland



Office for
Nuclear Regulation

ONR Site Report

Magnox Limited – Chapelcross

ONR Site Report

Magnox Limited - Chapelcross

Report for period: 01 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: May-23

ONR Record Ref. No.: 2023/24089

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

Site inspectors from ONR usually attend Chapelcross 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

ONR's inspectors made no inspections during the period 1 January – 31 March 2023.

1.1. Date(s) of Inspection

The ONR site inspector made no inspections during the report 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); 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, there were no routine inspections of (Chapelcross).

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

Throughout this reporting period, ONR's nominated site safety inspector has held regular telephone meetings with Chapelcross leadership team representatives to maintain situational awareness of matters related to nuclear safety. No significant issues were highlighted to ONR.

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 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.

Table 1: Licence Instruments and Enforcement Notices Issued by ONR during this period

Date	Type	Ref. No.	Description

Reports detailing the above regulatory decisions can be found on the ONR website at <http://www.onr.org.uk/pars/>.

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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Chapelcross Site Stakeholder Group

SEPA Update- Chapelcross

9th August 2023

Regulation

Environmental Authorisations (Scotland) Regulations 2018 (EASR)- Radioactive Substances

Following on from the COVID-19 pandemic and its associated restrictions, telephone communication with the site has continued including formal monthly staying in touch telephone calls. Routine teleconferences with the Chapelcross site and the corporate Magnox Ltd team on strategic issues have also continued as before.

SEPA undertook an inspection at the Chapelcross site in May. This looked at the site's procedures for the preparation of statutory discharge returns for the discharge of gaseous radionuclides. The inspection focussed on the preparation of discharge returns of 'radionuclides other than tritium'. Overall, the site was found to have a good process in place for preparing data returns and this is well documented with robust procedures from the collection of filter papers through their analysis to reporting. It was noted however that some of the discharge data, collated by site on a weekly basis, had not been ascribed precisely to the appropriate calendar month where a week covered the end of one month and the beginning of the next. The statutory reporting requirement in the site's permit states such reporting should be made on a calendar month basis. This has no impact on the assessment of the impact to the public or environment associated with the discharges but SEPA continues to interact with the site to establish the effect this has on their statutory reporting of the discharges.

The site has applied for a variation to the sub-limit for the discharge of the gaseous 'all other radionuclides excluding tritium' associated with the operation of the Advanced Vacuum Drying Facility (AVDS) given in their EASR (2018) permit. This follows from the site notifying SEPA in June 2022 that they had determined that there had been an exceedance of the sub-limit. SEPA is determining this application and will keep the Site Stakeholder Group informed of the progress.

The site has recently applied for a further variation to their EASR permit. This application relates to an increase in the site limit for the discharge of gaseous radionuclides excluding tritium. SEPA will determine this application and will keep the Site Stakeholder Group informed of the progress.

Non-Rad Regulation

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

Environmental Events

There have been no environmental events reported to SEPA by the Chapelcross site.

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 in the UK. 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 the Chapelcross site. 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 [Reports | Scottish Environment Protection Agency \(SEPA\)](#).

Dr David Stone

Radioactive Substances Specialist

24 07 2023

SCOTTISH GOVERNMENT UPDATE TO CHAPELCROSS SITE STAKEHOLDER GROUP – 9TH AUGUST 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 and received over 300 responses. Scottish Government is now working with the UK Government and other devolved administrations to consider the responses to the consultation and develop the revised framework document. We will provide further information as this work develops.

Annual NDA meeting with Minister for Environment and Land Reform

The annual meeting between the Cabinet Secretary for Net Zero and Just Transition, the NDA Chair and NDA CEO, as set out in the NDA Framework document, will take place in September 2023. This will cover a number of issues including progress across the three NDA sites in Scotland as well as the expanding NDA mission in Scotland with the future transfers of Hunterston B and Torness for decommissioning.

Scottish Government Ministerial Changes

Mairi McAllan MSP has a new role as Cabinet Secretary for Transport, Net Zero and Just Transition, however, radioactive substances/nuclear decommissioning remains within her new portfolio.

Scottish Nuclear Sites Stakeholder Group Meeting (SSSG)

The next SSSG meeting is scheduled for 22nd of August 2023 at 2pm. The SSSG will be held at Victoria Quay in Edinburgh, with a hybrid option. 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

Chapelcross Programme

Status Report

Date	July 2023	Stage	Outline Business Case
Progress this period			
Summary The Chapelcross programme is focussed on developing the site into a high quality, green energy-focussed regional employment centre acting as a transformational project within the region. Conditional funding of £15.3m has been given from the Borderlands Growth Deal towards the project. Together with funding of £5.5m, committed by Dumfries and Galloway Council, the capital investment will be used to unlock the site for development through servicing and road improvements to access the site. Work is underway to develop the Outline Business Case due for submission in 2024, starting now with the commissioning of a Strategic Development Framework that will provide a blueprint for the site. Land Holdings The 210+ hectare site is wholly owned by NDA Properties Limited and is part leased to site operators, Magnox Ltd. 96Ha of the site currently remain a nuclear licenced site and are in the process of being decommissioned with around 60ha of land available for development now. Site Enquiries There is significant live interest in the site from a range of market sectors such as digital, battery storage, hydrogen production by companies of varying size and scale. Avison Young are actively marketing the site on behalf of the partners; the link to the brochure is attached: https://www.avisonyoung.co.uk/properties/-/property/detail-112992 Some larger developers have expressed an interest in the site; there is an opportunity for the land holder to seek a Joint Venture development partner at the appropriate juncture to deliver the desired outcomes. Discussions are live within the Nuclear Decommissioning Authority as to the optimal legal, commercial and operational arrangement to release the land for development. South of Scotland Enterprise (SOSE) is investigating the purchase of part of the Chapelcross South site to service and unlock the land as business space. Regional Hydrogen Hub Scottish Government has included Chapelcross as a regional hydrogen hub site within its strategy documents. Further dialogue is planned for 3rd August with Scottish Government representatives. National Development 17 Scottish Government has included Chapelcross as a national development site within its planning framework. Scottish Development International A script has been drafted to showcase the site and region to an international audience for development. Filming will take place at the end of July 2023 for subsequent use by Scottish Government in attracting overseas investment. Strategic Development Framework A Strategic Development Framework (SDF) is being tendered which builds on the work completed to date by the various studies and informed by the Strategic Outline Case which is focussed on Green Energy generation, storage, transportation and the symbiotic industries that can bring high value jobs to the site. The outputs of this work will form part of the Outline Business Case submission to the Borderlands Inclusive Growth Deal for site access and servicing.			



Activities Planned for Next Reporting Period
• Strategic Development Framework tender returns will be evaluated. • Site marketing remains live • NDA is developing an approach to release the land for development.