



Summary of the key points from the Trawsfynydd Site Stakeholder Group Meeting held on the 12 December 2024

1. The Chair welcomed all to the meeting and presented a brief update on issues since the last meeting.
2. Thomas G Williams presented the NRS Site Director's Report
3. Tanya MacLeod presented an update from the ONR.
4. Iwan Williams gave a briefing on the NRW / EA joint report circulated previously.
5. Dave Wallace presented an update on NDA issues.



**Trawsfynydd Site Stakeholder Group Meeting
Thursday 12 December 2024 13.00 hrs
Conference Centre**

MINUTES

PRESENT

NAME

Cllr. Keith O'Brien,
T G Williams
Elin P Jones
Richard Owen
Steve Parry
Rory Trappe
Beryl Williams
Jonathon Jenkins
David Wallace
Tanya MacLeod
Katie Chandler
Iwan R Jones
Arron Jones
Gerallt Rhun
Colin Tucker
Lisa Birks
Cllr. D M Williams
Cllr John L. Richards

ORGANISATION

Trawsfynydd Community Council (Chair)
Site Director
NRS
NRS
NRS
Trawsfynydd Retirees Group
Trawsfynydd Retirees Group
NDA
NDA
ONR
ONR
Cyngor Gwynedd
NWF&R Service
Trawsfynyddnewid
Penrhyn Resident
Cwmni Eginio
Maentwrog Comm Council
Talsarnau Community Council

In Attendance

Aled Job	Cymen - Translator
Sydna Roberts	Cymen – minute taker

1. Welcome and Apologies

The Chair welcomed everyone to the meeting at 1pm.

The following apologies were noted: -

Bill Hamilton NRS Director of External Affairs
Mair Jones NRS Socio Economic Lead for Wales and Scotland
Cath Pritchard – NRS SSG Sec and Comms Co-ordinator
Kate Simpson – Environmental Agency
Gwen Pettifor – Women's Institute
Meryl Roberts – Ward Penrhyndeudraeth
Cllr. Elfed Roberts, Cyngor Gwynedd
Cllr. Gwynfor Owen, Cyngor Gwynedd
Elliwi Williams - Cwmni Eginio

No Declarations of Interest were received.

2. Approve the Minutes of the meeting held on 20 June 2023

Minutes of the meeting held on 20 June 2024 were presented and accepted as a correct record.

3. Matters arising from the minutes of the meeting held on 20 June 2024

None raised.

4. Chairman's Address

The Chair referred to correspondence he had received from Gwen Pettifor who has represented Gwynedd and Meirionnydd Women's Institute on the SSG for several years. It noted that she wished to step down from the SSG. It was agreed to write to Ms Pettifor to thank her for her valued contribution to the SSG and to accept her offer of forwarding another nominee.

He then went on to report on events taken place since the last SSG.

- The 2024 NDA Stakeholder summit – 17/18 September 2024 at Manchester
- Chair and Vice Chair Forum meeting Friday 29 November 2024
- TUSNE group 2-day event held in Llandudno. Mr Rory Trappe gave a brief report on the event, held with support of NEA and EDF. Cwmni Egino, Isle of Anglesey County Council, Welsh Government and NIA were also represented. Discussions were held on Wylfa, Project Arthur and decommissioning. He noted that, in his view, Wales was on a 'nosedive' as far as nuclear energy employment opportunities were concerned due to the lack of investment.

5. Trawsfynydd Site Director's Report – Thomas G Williams

Thomas G Williams, Site Director presented his report summarised as follows:

Safety Focus

It was noted that there had been 3053 days without lost time injury resulting from extensive work continually being undertaken to ensure the highest calibre of safety.

Our People

	Number on site
NRS	180
Contractors	Altrad x 16 / J N Bentley x 7 / Nuvia x 17 / MITIE x 35 / Element x 7
Agency	10 (+ 12 CSW)
MSO	38 (1 x ASW; 7 x CSW; 26 x EMPL; 3 x PCH
Apprentices	9 (5 x Maintenance Craft 4 x Rad Protection) Maintenance = 3 x
Mechanical;	2 x Electrical.

Graduates 2 have been taken on as Assistant Engineers following completion of their Graduate Scheme

Health and Well-being

TW referred to a very proactive Health and Wellbeing group on site that hold regular activities for all the workforce examples of which were -

- Lunch and Learn sessions shared with Wylfa site
- Cinema showing of Migraines and Headaches
- Restart a Heart Day
- Site Christmas Fayre with stalls by local business/crafts to promote community cohesion.

Sustainability & Environment

Annual Litter Pick – the Trawsfynydd Annual Litter Pick for 2024 at the Eryri National Park was a resounding success resulting in 1 ton of waste being collected. It also served as a social event for staff with street food and ice cream shared at the end of the day.

TW also referred to the Trawsfynydd site recycling project with early indicators showing an increase in recycling rates confirming great efforts paving the way for a greener future

STEM (Science Technology Engineering & Mathematics)

In July, Trawsfynydd hosted over 20 PhD students from Nuclear Centres of Doctoral Training The visits aimed to educate the students about Trawsfynydd's history in electricity generation and its current decommissioning efforts. The students toured the site, learned about decommissioning work, and explored career opportunities with NRS. This academic year nine secondary schools will be welcomed to the site.

Current Projects

Current projects summarised as follows:–

- Trawsfynydd Visitor Centre Renovation Highlights - resulting in improved facilities that will be offered for wider community use in future.
- Low Active Waste Consignment – it was noted that 7 consignments have been sent with the aim to send a total of 14 by the end of March 2024
- South Fuel Element Debris - High Active Waste Operations team progressing active commissioning of the LPW campaign in the South FED.
- Asbestos Management – Significant progress on Asbestos Environmental Cleans in reactor basements

- New Sewage plant – work is still progressing to finalise the end state of the redundant sewage plant final steps active commissioning.
- Site Security reconfiguration – the Maintenance and Facilities Management teams supporting in stripping out an area of the Access Control Point (ACP) as enabling works to facilitate the main project works is to conclude in early January 2025.
- Reconfiguration of the sites electrical supply system – there is significant progress on reconfiguring the site's electrical supply system for the Reactor Height Reduction project. Islanding process on schedule, expected completion in January 2025
- Ponds Complex Demolition and disposal (PCDD) – permit application is ongoing and regular discussions held with partners. TW explained the work undertaken to date regarding Resin Vaults 2&3 noting that further, more complicated work, is to be undertaken.
- Pre- Application Consultation – community consultation has taken place and will continue in the future.
- Reactor Height Reduction – TW outlined the timeline for the procurement phase, it is envisaged that the physical works will commence late 2025 with a 3-year project duration.
- Reactor decommissioning EIADR – an Environment Impact Assessment will be undertaken early February 2025. The ONR will seek comments on the Scoping Report and ES from the SSG. This will ensure that environmental factors important to stakeholders are addressed.
- Spot the dog – the successful deployment of SPOT robotic dogs to enable entry to Trawsfynydd's bio shield to collect LIDAR and video imagery for decommissioning. TW shared a short video that highlighted the transformative power of technology and collaboration in achieving sustainable decommissioning goals.

Looking Ahead

Transition of Maentwrog Hydropower Station Management - transition from Wylfa to Trawsfynydd due to Trawsfynydd's proximity for better support. The benefits will be improved resource management and enhanced operational efficiency. TW reported on a good positive transition meeting last week.

Socio-economic update

INTERA-lite Adventure Race – North Wales hosted the 2–3-day multi-discipline adventure race, in July. Trawsfynydd served as a transition hub for teams, providing a perfect base for the event. There were around 160 participants from around the world.

Red Dragon Project - planning permission has been approved for a £4m extension to the line into Bala town centre. This was supported by NRS funding of £98,515 over the years.

Good Neighbour funding - £2k awarded to Côr y Brythoniad in order that they could produce 2 CD's. Meirionydd National Vintage Tractor & Engine Club (NVTEC) awarded £1,000 for an NRS branded gazebo to enhance club awareness at local events.

TW introduced Mr Steve Parry Head of Radiation at Trawsfynydd who provided a presentation on the Trawsfynydd Environmental Monitoring Programme Review. He explained that the current programme required review due to the decrease in risk levels. He summarised the changes to the monitoring programme as follows:

- Rainbow Trout sampled three times a year (to reflect the fishing open season), Brown Trout sampled once per year (due to the lack of availability).
- The existing Lake Edge Sediment sampling will continue. Lakebed Sediment sampling, however, will cease due to lake edge sampling providing adequate information and disproportionate risk to operators collecting bed samples.
- Sampling of river moss will continue at Afon Tafarn-helyg once per year, but sampling up stream on the Afon Prysor will cease due to safety risk entering water and tenuous mechanism for site activity to be present upstream.
- Gamma dose rates from spot samples are comparable to background levels. Therefore, gamma dose rate sampling will be reduced to four sample locations twice per year, two at the lake edge and two in the environment.
- Lake water sampling is to be reduced from monthly to quarterly at the existing locations since the activity levels over the last 5 years have been very low with little variability

The Chair thanked TW and SP for their reports and kindly requested an explanation of terminology in future reports to facilitate a clearer understanding for stakeholder members. The Chair then invited questions from the floor.

Question and Answer session.

Cllr. MW – enquired if the Ponds Complex application had been to the Local Authority Planning Committee. TW stated that it will be presented within the next 6 weeks. He also agreed to MW's request for presentations on developments to all local Community Councils.

Rory Trappe – enquired if there were any employment figures to hand regarding the Reactor Height Reduction work. TW – reiterated that the final tender return is due on 19.12.24. when actual figures can be confirmed, however, the figure is expected to be around 100 with the majority being local, particularly Tier 3/4 workers.

Colin Tucker – referred to the Environment Agency in England reducing discharge limits. IW confirmed that there are no proposals for reductions.

Beryl Williams – enquired if there are any financial gains from the transfer of Maentwrog to Trawsfynydd. It was explained that, in accordance with the Energy Act, all funding is managed from one source.

Gerallt Rhun – asked what the current workforce number was for Maentwrog . TW stated that there are currently 7 members of staff. He also noted that Andy MacAteer Site Manager will be retiring within the next 12 months and that two members of staff from Trawsfynydd and Wylfa are being trained up to take the post. Staff numbers will remain as they are in the short term, .

6. Report by the Office for Nuclear Regulation – Tanya MacLeod

Tanya McLeod was welcomed to the meeting and informed members that she will shortly be leaving her post. She introduced Kate Chandler who will be the new ONR Nominated Site Inspector for Trawsfynydd.

The report for the period 1 April 24 – 30 September 24 was previously shared with members and no areas of concern were highlighted following routine inspections within the period.

Question and Answer session.- none received

The Chair thanked TM for her update, wished her well in her new post and welcomed Kate Chandler to the group . .

7. Report by Natural Resources Wales – Iwan Williams

Iwan Williams was welcomed to meeting noting that his report had been previously circulated with the meeting papers.

He welcomed Steve Parry's presentation. He also noted that David Wilby had now left NRW to a post with EA. The vacancy will be appointed within the next few months.

The Chair thanked IW for his update.

Question and Answer session- none received

8. Report by the Nuclear Decommissioning Authority – Dave Wallace

Dave Wallace was welcomed to the meeting and summarised his report previously circulated with the meeting papers.

- NDA has met with ED Milliband Secretary of State for Energy and Net Zero last week and he was complimentary of work undertaken around all UK sites.
- NDA spending review currently being undertaken - allocations not yet known.
- Working closely with NIA to establish a Cross-Party Group on the Civil Nuclear Industry in the Senedd replicating the Scottish model. .
- SSG review – currently reviewing the outcomes to share good practices. NDA will work with individual SSG's to ensure correct representation.
- Strategy 5 will be published March 2026 following consultation.
- Representative from Cwmni Eginio, Gwynedd County Council and Bangor University were invited to Chapel Cross to view the green energy park.

Question and Answer session.

Rory Trappe – asked about sources of energy/power. DW acknowledged that power is an issue across the UK and that there was much work to do as regards power infrastructure.

Colin Tucker – enquired if the local Senedd Member, Mabon ap Gwynfor, was involved in the proposed cross-party group. DW confirmed that he was not.

Cllr. JR – noted that SSEN has earmarked £10m for local community benefit within their Hydro Station areas, and asked whether this will be replicated in our area.

DW agreed to enquire further and report back to a future meeting

9. Update from Cwmni Eginio

Lisa Birks was welcomed to the meeting and presented a report in the absence of Elli Williams. She updated members as follows:-

She reminded members that Cwmni Eginio was established by the Welsh Government to look at the option of small-scale nuclear development at the Trawsfynydd site. A business proposal was presented to UK Government in 2022. In 2023 the priority for Great British Nuclear (GBN) was to lead the process of selecting at least 2 SMR technologies and matching them with sites. GBN, however, does not favor Trawsfynydd for the first wave of projects, mainly because the site is not in the current National Policy Statement, EN-6.

Cwmni Eginio have continued to conduct more work to characterise the site in more detail and in collaboration with stakeholders including NDA, NRS, Natural Resources Wales and the National Park to enrich knowledge of the scope and what can be delivered in Trawsfynydd.

In addition, Cwmni Eginio has supported the work of the ARTHUR project, led by the Welsh Government's science department, and a feasibility study by M-SParc commissioned by Gwynedd Council to explore the possibility of developing a facility like a science park. Work on developing a North Wales Prospectus to present the opportunity and the case for bringing nuclear investment across the region is ongoing.

LB reiterated Cwmni Eginio's commitment to supporting any efforts to ensure a sustainable future for the Trawsfynydd site.

Question and Answer Session

Rory Trappe – stated that GBN had not realised the strength of feeling in Trawsfynydd regarding their decision not to favour the site for SMR's. LB reiterated that Cwmni Eginio will continue to support Trawsfynydd to ensure best outcomes for future use.

The Chair was of the view that GBN evoking Policy Note 6 was misleading. He informed members that Trawsfynydd Community Council has registered

its disappointment clearly with GBN. He also wished to thank Cwmni Egino for its continued support.

Cllr MW suggested that it would be beneficial for all local Community Councils to join forces to ensure a more powerful voice.

10. AOB – none received

In closing, the Chair again thanked TW for all the work undertaken on site in supporting further education, ensuring sustainability and, of course, effective and efficient decommissioning.

Date and time of next meeting

Date: 19 June 2024
Time: 1pm
Venue: Trawsfynydd Conference and Induction Centre

The Chair thanked everyone for their attendance and closed the meeting at 3pm