

**HUNTERSTON SITE STAKEHOLDER GROUP (SSG)
SUMMARY OF KEY POINTS FROM THE MEETING
HELD ON THURSDAY 5 SEPTEMBER 2024
AT THE WATERSIDE HOTEL, ARDROSSAN ROAD, WEST KILBRIDE, KA23 9NG**

Chair's Opening Remarks

The Chair welcomed the attendees.

Hunterston B Report – Mr Joe Struthers

Mr Struthers reported that, as of 5 September, 61% of the second reactor had been defueled, while 188 of 308 channels had been defueled. Enhancements had been implemented to assist the removal of tie bar end fittings. An NRS staff engagement session had taken place in June. A local fire alarm had been initiated in the Hunterston B district survey laboratory, and a successful counter-terrorism emergency exercise demonstration had taken place with internal and external regulators.

ONR Report – Mr Steve Saunders

Mr Saunders reported that the ONR continued to monitor the preparations for the transition and transfer. Hunterston B had completed a phase 1 counter-terrorism emergency exercise, demonstrating adequate site arrangements.

SEPA Report – Mr Keith Hammond

Mr Hammond reported that SEPA staff had attended the start-up meeting for the Hunterston habits survey on 24 June. SEPA continued to monitor the minor leak of non-radioactive biodegradable oil from an oil-filled cable.

Hunterston A Report – Mr Mark Blackley

Mr Blackley reported that there had been one reportable injury. The planned calibration of the WILWREP manual stack train (MST) had highlighted that the calibration period had expired. The calibration had been successfully undertaken and had confirmed that the MST was operating as expected.

The SAWBR team had been working to a 'back out plan' for the SAWB bunkers. The repairs had been implemented, and the site would now recommence hoovering the fines. WILWREP had been reconfigured to start retrieving and encapsulating acid. The site had entered the first stage of active commissioning. The proposed manual process for ILW packages in SILWE had recently passed design approval. The reactor 2 roof repairs were complete, and minor work concerning reactor 1 would be concluded by the end of September. The project to determine the best practical means (BPM) for dealing with the bunker waste was progressing well.

SEPA Report – Ms Melanie Hayes

Ms Hayes reported that SEPA had undertaken site inspections on 12 June and 13/14 August. Ms Hayes had reviewed the additional information regarding the site ventilation system defects and had informed the site that it was now compliant with the standard conditions. SEPA awaited information to close out the discharge returns notice.

The documentation for public consultation for the aqueous discharge variation application had been completed, and it was hoped that it would be published imminently. SEPA had been notified of a loss of refrigerant gas at Hunterston A on 18 July and 25 July.

Update from NDA – Mr David Wallace

Mr Wallace reported that Ed Miliband had been appointed as Secretary of State for Energy Security and Net Zero, while Lord Hunt Minister had been appointed as Minister of State. The second meeting of the Cross Party Group on Civil Nuclear Industry would take place on 11 September, and the SSG review was taking place. The NDA was in the process of recruiting for its third secondment into Scottish Government's radioactive waste substances team.

Update from NRS and Introduction to Thinks Insight – Mr Bill Hamilton

Mr Hamilton presented a video that demonstrated Thinks Insight's engagement with local communities.

Update from Scottish Government – Ms Diane Hamilton

Ms Hamilton reported that the Scottish site nuclear stakeholder group meeting had taken place on 14 August. The Scottish Government was reviewing the higher activity waste policy and the implementation strategy, and informed stakeholders were being invited to highlight aspects of the policy that required further clarity or development.

Questions were asked by members after each presentation, the detail of which can be read in the full minute of the meeting, available from the Secretariat.

Next Meeting – Thursday 5 December 2024