

DOUNREAY STAKEHOLDER GROUP  
SITE RESTORATION SUB GROUP MEETING

DSG/SRSG(2015)M003

Minutes of the DSG Site Restoration Sub Group meeting held on Wednesday 15<sup>th</sup> July 2015 at 1900 hours in the Pentland Hotel (Large Lounge), Thurso.

Present:	Bob Earnshaw	Thurso Community Council (Chairman)
	David Flear	DSG Chairman
	Alastair MacDonald	DSG Honorary member
	Mike Flavell	NHS Highland
	Cllr Roger Saxon	Highland Council
	Cllr Willie Mackay	Highland Council
	George MacDougall	Caithness West Community Council
	Thelma Mackenzie	Dounreay Unions
	David Broughton	DSG member
	Roy Blackburn	DSG member
In addition:	June Love	DSRL, DSG secretariat
	Bob Kury	Dounreay Deputy Managing Director
	Phil Cartwright	Dounreay Communications and Socio Economic Manager
	Lt Cdr Andy Mole	MOD, Vulcan
	Sheila Hutchison	ONR (for Dounreay)
	Stewart Ballantine	SEPA
	Insp Pat Green	CNC

## MINUTES

### 1. WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS

Bob Earnshaw welcomed everyone to the meeting. He noted that the representative from Caithness West Community Council had changed and welcomed George MacDougall to his first meeting. Introductions were made round the table.

### 2. APOLOGIES

Apologies were received from the following:

- Nigel Lowe, NDA Head of Programme.
- Cllr George Farlow, Highland Council
- John Deighan, Dounreay Unions (Thelma Mackenzie deputised).
- Cdr Ken Dyke, MOD Vulcan (Lt Cdr Andy Mole deputised).
- Deirdre Henderson, Buldoo Residents Group

### 3. MINUTES OF LAST MEETING

Bob Earnshaw noted that the minutes of the last meeting – DSG/SRSG(2015)M002 – had been circulated in advance to members. The minutes were accepted as a true reflection of the meeting and this was proposed by Alastair MacDonald and seconded by David Broughton.

No issues were raised from the minutes.

#### 4. STATUS OF ACTIONS

Progress on actions had been circulated in advance. Of note:

- DSG(2015)M002/A008: David Flear to invite Paul Monaghan, MP to meet with DSG representatives. David Flear noted he had spoken with Dr Monaghan's Chief of Staff and a meeting would be organised shortly with a number of DSG representatives to ensure the MP was fully up to speed with activities relating to CNSRP, NDA/DSRL/DSG as well as the Chamber of Commerce.
- DSG(2015)M002/A023: DSG Chairman to write to NDA Chief Executive requesting examples of the 'many advantages' that has been brought by a rotating senior management team. Roy Blackburn noted that this action was complete – he asked if examples had been provided. It was agreed to circulate the response around DSG members.

All other actions were continuing to be progressed.

#### 5. VULCAN UPDATE

Bob Earnshaw noted that written updates had been received from Vulcan and Rolls Royce. These being:

- DSG(2015)P013: Vulcan update, June 2015.
- DSG(2015)C049: Rolls Royce update, June 2015
- DSG(2015)C027: Letter regarding future of PWR3 reactors.

Lt Cdr Andy Mole reported the following:

- Very little change from the written report which had been provided.
- At the June DSG meeting a lost time accident had been reported. Another lost time accident had occurred on the 1<sup>st</sup> July when an individual tripped and turned their ankle which had resulted in 4 days off work. While this was not RIDDOR reportable it was still classed as a lost time accident.

David Flear noted that his discussion with the MP's Chief of Staff had centred on the local press article which had been published in the paper that morning in relation to Vulcan and Rolls Royce's future in the county.

The Rolls Royce update was noted.

DSG(2015)C027 had been a response on the decision not to trial PWR3 reactors which had subsequently led to discussion on the future options for the site which currently ranged from 'do nothing' to full decommissioning. David Flear noted that during discussions with Steve Firth he had made it clear that the community would like to have a say when considering these options.

Roy Blackburn asked when in 2016 would the assessment of options be undertaken Lt Cdr Andy Mole responded that he was not aware of an exact date but would ask whether this could be further clarified.

Action: DSG/SRSG(2015)M003/A001: Lt Cdr Andy Mole to enquire about timelines in 2016 for the assessment of options for the Vulcan site.

David Flear asked that these comments be taken back to MOD that DSG would require to have early sight of the options before a final decision was made to ensure that community input was included. Lt Cdr Andy Mole confirmed he would do so.

#### 6. DOUNREAY IMPROVEMENT TEAM

Bob Earnshaw reminded members that this item was on the agenda because of the recent incidents on the site. He noted that an update was now being provided in DSRL's written report. He invited Bob Kury, Dounreay Deputy Managing Director to provide an update.

Bob Kury noted the following:

- The Dounreay Improvement Team (DIT) was now fully functional and were initially focussing on 5 safety culture initiatives including:
  - Conduct of Operations: this was on target to be complete by 31<sup>st</sup> August 2015.
  - RSA Variation: the forward action plan had now been completed and the RSA variation had been successfully closed out. Further actions were ongoing and were expected to be complete by December 2015.
  - Management walkabouts were now being undertaken on a regular basis which provided more visibility of the management team and also allowed them to receive feedback from those working on the shop floor.
  - Second nature observations continued to take place and were starting to show good improvements.
  - Supervisory Training was implemented in July to ensure that baseline training programme was identified with specific focus on roles and responsibilities, conduct of operations and leadership expectations.

Bob Earnshaw thanked Bob Kury for this update. No questions were raised.

#### 7. DOUNREAY UPDATE

Bob Earnshaw noted there were a number of written reports. Of note the following was reported:

- NDA update: June Love noted that apologies had been received from the NDA but she had received a written update. This was as follows:
  - The appointment of the new Managing Director, Phil Craig, had been agreed by the NDA.
  - Clarification was awaited on the potential impacts of the spending review on the Dounreay programme following the UK Government budget.
  - Work continued to progress the transport options and regulatory registrations for fuel movements.
  - NDA were pleased to report that the ONR Improvement Notice had been lifted on the tank farm and that the SEPA RSA variation closure process had been agreed.

- Dounreay update (DSG(2015)P017 refers): Bob Kury suggested he take the paper as read and invited questions. Of note:
  - Low Level Waste Pits 1-6: David Broughton asked how the site had reached the conclusion that the existing low level waste pits required emptying. Bob Kury responded that, following the site management contract award, they had revisited this and a determination document had been developed which had identified on balance the preferred option was to empty these pits. He agreed to check to see whether the information within the determination document could be provided to DSG members.

Action: DSG(2015)M003/A002: Bob Kury, Dounreay Deputy MD to clarify what information could be released with regards the determination to empty the existing low level waste pits.

- PFR Effluent Treatment Plant: Roy Blackburn asked if there was a major impact with the issues around the ETP. Bob Kury responded that this was a priority to get this fixed and get the system back up and running. A plan had been developed to carry out the repairs but this did not significantly impact on site operations at this time.
- LLW Vaults: Roy Blackburn noted that the operation of the grout plant had been suspended. Bob Kury responded that there had been a fault in the drain line where the grout had clogged up the system. Work had stopped to clear the grout and this work had now recommenced with active commissioning now continuing.
- LLW Vaults phase 2: David Flear noted that phase 2 of the construction of low level waste vaults was due to be completed by 2020. He asked whether a start date had been identified. Bob Kury responded that the site was currently looking at moving the construction of the vaults forward but this was at very early discussions. DSG and local residents would be notified as soon as a firm date had been identified.
- Key milestones for 2015/16: David Flear asked what UPP stood for. Phil Cartwright responded this was the Ultrafiltration Pilot Plant which had been used to treat the silo liquors. David Flear asked for an explanation on the milestone for fuels which took the completion of the mezzanine construction to a hold point. Bob Kury responded that the construction of the mezzanine could be completed before all processes for the rest of the installation were in place. Therefore following construction there was a hold point to ensure the paperwork for justification of this plant was robust and had gone through the internal and regulatory approvals. David Flear asked for an explanation of LEAN (Complete 10 LEAN events which demonstrate they have met success criteria). Bob Kury responded that this was a standard practice that industries utilise in making efficiencies. Many elements of the site's business would be considered and run through the system to realise further efficiencies, the milestone refers to the first 10.
- Dounreay Castle: Alastair MacDonald asked what the extent of the damage had been to the castle. Phil Cartwright responded that during the recent storms there had been some erosion damage and the north wall had collapsed. The site had raised this with SNH. The NDA and SNH had asked the site to look at what could be done to stabilise what is left of the castle. This is being looked at now and the NDA would consider how this will be taken forward once proposals are provided.
- Lab 33 decommissioning: Roger Saxon noted that there had been an elevation in the doses of a number of the workforce. Phil Cartwright responded that these results had proved

negative following further sampling.

- Lost Time Accident: Bob Kury confirmed that the 4<sup>th</sup> year apprentice who had injured his finger had just returned to work and would work with some restrictions in place. The investigation had just been completed.
- PFR Tank Farm: Bob Kury confirmed that the ONR Improvement Notice had been lifted and work had recommenced with preparations for putting engineered access covers on Tanks 3 and 4.

SEPA Update (DSG(2015)P016 refers): Stewart Ballantine provided an update. Of note:

- Dounreay issues were taking up a significant amount of time for SEPA inspectors.
- In terms of low level waste, disposals had now been made in the facility and SEPA would be monitoring the use of the facility as part of the licence requirements.
- On non-nuclear site regulation SEPA was working with the site on the waste management license.

Bob Earnshaw asked whether the waste management license brought together all the non-nuclear waste topics. Stewart Ballantine responded that currently everything within the nuclear site license boundary was already covered under a single licence, excluding CAR abstractions. The variation is looking to make onsite monitoring more specific to the non-active wastes being managed at Dounreay and amend the wording of some conditions to be clearer what is required. This variation also looks at bringing in activities out with the licensed site boundary i.e. the storage of excavated material from the construction of the LLW Vaults to the single licence. Landfill 42 would continue to be a stand-alone facility.

David Flear noted that SEPA had reported the number of errors made in environmental reporting and asked whether DSRL had enough resources to carry out this work. Bob Kury confirmed that there was enough resource and measures were being put in place to rectify these errors. Stewart Ballantine indicated that SEPA had discussed with the site how they would address this issue.

David Flear noted that there was a meeting scheduled for August to discuss interim end state issues. He asked whether DSG could get some feedback from that meeting. Stewart Ballantine responded that this would be possible.

Action: DSG/SRSG(2015)M003/A003: Stewart Ballantine to provide feedback from SEPA's meeting with DSRL on interim end state following meeting in August.

Mike Flavell asked what the groundwater daughter directive was. Stewart Ballantine responded that there was a Water Framework directive and this is the follow-up to that. A huge amount of work had been done on that and SEPA was meeting with DSRL in August to ensure they are fully up to speed with the new directive NOTE: since the DSG meeting this has been amended and will be attended by the NDA only. Roger Saxon noted that Dounreay had already undertaken a lot of work on groundwater. Stewart Ballantine responded that the meeting would set out how SEPA expectations in respect of the directive implementation in Scotland.

ONR update (DSG(2015)P018 refers): Sheila Hutchison reported:

- A number of inspections had taken place to confirm that the necessary improvements had been made to comply with the Enforcement Notice.
- ONR had observed the recent site exercise and had deemed this as an adequate demonstration.
- ONR had followed up the anomalous biological monitoring results with DSRL. It was noted that this was not the easiest of analyses and the results were considered to be a statistical feature of setting a very low internal reporting level. When the site identified positive results further analysis was undertaken and these results were negative. DSRL had undertaken a thorough investigation.

Bob Kury added that the site took elevated levels of dose intake very seriously and had reviewed the site's protocols on bioassay. He re-iterated that the levels being investigated had been extremely low but repeat testing had been carried out and there had been a number of tests to ensure that these were false or a false negative. The site believed they had a robust process. Roger Saxon noted that there had been other times when dose intake had seen positive results, for example when work was being undertaken at the Pulse Column Lab. Sheila Hutchison added that ONR's radiological protections specialist had reviewed DSRL's investigation and was satisfied this had been carried out properly. Phil Cartwright acknowledged that history showed that elevated levels had been reported in various parts of the site and emphasised the very low levels that had been detected were being looked at.

Sheila Hutchison also noted she had circulated the ONR plan for the regulation of the Dounreay site for 2015/16 (DSG(2015)C046 refers). The paper was noted.

CNC update: Inspector Pat Green provide a verbal update. Of note:

- In April 2015, CNC had been in operation for 10 years. CNC report into DECC and also report to NDA and ONR.
- CNC's primary aim is to protect the nuclear material currently held on site and this dictates how CNC goes about their day to day business.
- CNC continue to improve their capability considering anything that could impinge on the safety and security of the site. Three different work streams had been identified where improvements could be made and these were being actively progressed.
- As part of the improvements in security, the CNC at Dounreay would take ownership of a Ballistically Protected Vehicle (BPV) that will allow CNC to cover open ground in the fastest time to nullify any threat. To support this process people will be trained to drive the vehicle. The vehicle will be regularly utilised on site by approved drivers but not off site.

The BPV is a bespoke vehicle and part of the process will be for on-site vehicle maintenance. There had been DVLA correspondence with a view to future proofing it.

David Broughton asked while this was a specialised vehicle it would presumably be used frequently. Pat Green responded this was the case to ensure CNC officers continued training and that the vehicle was properly maintained. Phil Cartwright noted that this was one of the questions that the site had raised. The engine was designed for low speed regular running. Pat Green added that the

BPV would not patrol off-site and that five officers had already undertaken training. Roger Saxon asked whether there was any possibility of the BPV being taken off the Dounreay site. Pat Green confirmed that the only time this would happen would be to take it into the firing range or unless specific training was required.

Bob Earnshaw noted that road signs were being erected for the CNC firing range on either side of the road. Pat Green responded that the CNC were responsible for the day to day running of the firing range and the signs and flags were being erected as a result of health and safety. Phil Cartwright added that the signs were erected in response to comments made by local residents.

#### 8. CORRESPONDENCE FOR NOTING

Bob Earnshaw noted that there was a number of correspondence for noting. These were:

- DSG(2015)C017: DSG's response to DECC's consultation on low level waste strategy.
- DSG(2015)C039: DSG letter regarding socio economic benefits in phase 2 of the LLW vaults.
- DSG(2015)C042: DSRL's response to socio economic benefits in phase 2 of the LLW vaults.
- DSG(2015)C050: DSRL Heritage update, July 2015.

David Flear noted that correspondence 39 and 42 had been discussed at the Socio Economic sub group meeting. He and Derrick Milnes had met with Craig Brown (DSRL Support Services Director) and Ken Linn (Head of Commercial) and had discussed a number of socio economic benefits within contracts. He noted that the NDA had recently included socio economic clauses in both the construction and commercial contracts for the NDA Nuclear Archives which was positive. Further discussions would take place with site on procurement issues.

Roy Blackburn noted that the response provided to DSG's letter on socio economic benefit had been very top level. David Flear responded that was why he had taken this up further as he had felt it had not addressed what DSG had asked. As a result of that meeting with Mark Rouse a further meeting had been organised with Craig Brown and Ken Linn and it was recognised there was a process that was being worked through. Bob Earnshaw noted the previous work that DSG had carried out on socio economic benefits within contracts. David Flear responded that further discussions would continue to ensure benefits were realised.

On the heritage update, it was noted that the PFR cornerstone along with the motto 'Out of Caithness to the World' would be positioned at the NDA Nuclear Archives. The Highland Council Planning had asked for a piece of art and the PFR table was deemed to be an existing artefact which related closely to the archives and the work that had been carried out at Dounreay. The middle of the cornerstone was empty and it was thought that there was potential to include small sculpture that would fit with the rest of the structure.

David Flear noted that the turf cutting ceremony for the NDA Nuclear Archives would take place on 5<sup>th</sup> August which was another major move towards the archives being built. It was confirmed that construction company, Morrison Construction, was currently on site.

Roger Saxon noted that the DMTR control room was now housed in Caithness Horizons.

#### 9. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

Bob Earnshaw noted that the following had been circulated.

- Draft minutes of the Scottish Government Scottish Sites meeting held on 14<sup>th</sup> May 2015. David Broughton noted that under paragraph 5.03 there was a note on the site's low level waste

stores. He emphasised that the low level waste was being placed in disposal facilities and not stores and that this should be corrected. Phil Cartwright noted that these minutes were in draft form and changes to the minutes would be provided to Scottish Government to reflect this.

- A draft response to Scottish Government's consultation on higher activity waste implementation had been provided by David Broughton on behalf of DSG. The consultation was due to close on 8<sup>th</sup> August and therefore it was suggested that members considered the draft response and provide further comment or questions to the secretary who would collate and finalise the submission for final approval.

Action: DSG/SRSG(2015)M003/A004: All DSG members to consider the Scottish Government's Higher Activity Waste Implementation consultation and DSG draft response and provide comments to DSG secretariat by end of July.

- Mike Flavell noted that NHS Highland would be meeting in Caithness on 7<sup>th</sup> September with the Minister for Health in attendance. David Flear thanked Mike Flavell for providing a written update (DSG(2015)C051 refers) and this would be circulated to all DSG members for information. He further noted that NHS recruitment had been successful in Grampian while less so in Highland and asked if there had been discussions between the two areas to explore what the differences had been in approach. Roger Saxon asked about the Dunbar signage and Mike Flavell confirmed that there would be no change to the services provided at Dunbar. [Secretary's note: A response to the question raised here on recruitment had been responded to as follows: We contacted NHS Grampian about this and their feed-back was that this wasn't part of a global recruitment campaign and they have not done anything differently from their current methods i.e. they still usually advertise Consultant posts in British Medical Journal. They said that they happen to have recruited 19 consultants in the last three months but not all of these have started or are in post as yet. They have tried overseas recruitment in the past but have had little success.

There is some interest coming from the Dutch adverts (paediatrician, anaesthetist and orthopaedics) but all for Raigmore and we are moving forward with these discussions. The EURES project European Employment Services is also producing some interest with one potential for Wick. A range of approaches are undertaken including social media.

Recruitment has been relatively positive for Caithness, with two Emergency Practitioners appointed, four Clinical Development Fellows and one rotational Surgeon. Further interviews will take place at the end of September for another rotational surgeon and there has been interest in that post. Recruitment efforts are ongoing for all posts.]

- June Love noted that she was currently looking for an alternative date for the public DSG meeting due to be held in September. This had resulted because there was now an NDA National Event due to be held on the 24<sup>th</sup> September.
- Roger Saxon stated that while this fell into the socio economic sub group meeting the Highland Council were currently considering the replacement chair of the CNSRP Advisory Board. He wondered whether it would be worthwhile writing to the new leader of the Council emphasising the importance of CNSRP within the area. David Flear responded that it looked like Margaret Davidson would become chair but it may also be the deputy leader, Audrey ?????. He confirmed that Eann Sinclair was progressing this. In addition, a meeting with Margaret Davidson was currently being organised and would be held on the 5<sup>th</sup> August following the turf cutting at the



NDA Nuclear Archives.

10. CLOSE

There being no further business, Bob Earnshaw thanked everyone for attending and formally closed the meeting.

Bob Earnshaw  
DSG Site Restoration sub group chairman  
19<sup>th</sup> July 2015

ACTIONS ARISING FROM THIS MEETING

DSG/SRSG(2015)M003/A001: Lt Cdr Andy Mole to enquire about timelines in 2016 for the assessment of options for the Vulcan site.

DSG(2015)M003/A002: Bob Kury, Dounreay Deputy MD to clarify what information could be released with regards the determination to empty the existing low level waste pits.

DSG/SRSG(2015)M003/A003: Stewart Ballantine to provide feedback from SEPA's meeting with DSRL on interim end state following meeting in August.

DSG/SRSG(2015)M003/A004: All DSG members to consider the Scottish Government's Higher Activity Waste Implementation consultation and DSG draft response and provide comments to DSG secretariat by end of July.