

DSG CHAIRMAN'S REPORT 2016/17

This year sees me stepping down as Chairman of the Dounreay Stakeholder Group after five years and I have taken the opportunity here to reflect on some of our achievements over these years.

Some people may believe that DSG meets four times per year but those who are involved within the group know that there is much more to it. DSG members are volunteers and each and every one of you have given up your time freely to attend, not only the main meeting, but to participate in sub group meetings and a range of other local, regional and national meetings over the year.

We have, as a collective body, held the NDA and site to account when appropriate and equally have supported the site in many ways when it is fitting to do so.

This year has seen a lot of questioning on transportation of nuclear materials and it has been a challenge to balance the information that has been provided with the security issues which surround such activity. I hope on balance DSG members recognise everyone has done their utmost to be open and transparent within the bounds of safety and security.

As I reflect over the years that DSG has been running (including the work of the two chairmen before me) we have made some positive achievements and to name but a few:

- The opening of Nucleus and the long term employment that this creates.
- The £4 million Caithness and North Sutherland Fund which supports projects throughout the Dounreay Travel to Work area.
- The focus of socio economic spending in the main going to CNSRP activities.
- The renovation of Dounreay.com public information office and the Human Resource and Training personnel moving in which helps to support town centre trading.
- The socio economic element within the Dounreay contracts.

And throughout all this time, we have continued to look at ourselves as a group and make small but important improvements in our scrutiny and oversight of the sites especially in the site operations area.

For this year, we have been involved in:

RESPONDING TO CONSULTATIONS

- Scottish Government's higher activity waste consultation
- Guidance on Requirements for Release of Nuclear Sites from Radioactive Substances Regulation (GRR Consultation)
- Dounreay Socio Economic Plan, 2016
- NDA Draft business Plan, 2017 onwards

SUPPORT TO OTHER PROJECTS

- Berriedale Braes
- Thurso Community Sports Hub

DSG PRESENTATIONS

- Presentation on Vulcan fuel movements
- Vulcan future options
- DSRL update presentation
- Morrison and Restore presentation on NDA Archives
- ONR presentation on regulation on nuclear transports, September 2016

EXTERNAL VISITS/MEETINGS

- Scottish Government Scottish Nuclear Sites Meeting
- NDA National Event
- NDA SSG Chair's Forum
- Nuclear Industry Association conference on nuclear decommissioning/new build

DSG ad hoc meetings

- Meetings with David Batters, NDA
- Site End State workshop
- Scottish Government, Scottish Nuclear Sites meeting
- NDA Skills discussions
- Meeting with Rob Higgins
- Liquid Effluent Discharge system workshop
- MSP/MP meeting

DSG REPRESENTATION AT OTHER MEETINGS

- CNSRP Advisory Board
- Caithness transport Forum
- North Highland Regeneration Fund
- Caithness & North Sutherland Fund
- LEADER (Highland)
- Nucleus Advisory Panel
- Caithness Community Planning Partnership

INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS

- The only SSG to be invited to take part in EU conferences regarding nuclear.
- Discussions with Canadian Government relating to low level waste
- Discussions with a number of representatives from Japan interesting in stakeholder relations.
- And most recently, examples of our stakeholder group have been passed to Taiwan.

As Chairman of DSG, I would like to take this opportunity to thank all members who have supported DSG activities throughout the year. The DSG has an important role to play in oversight and scrutiny of both the site operator and NDA and I believe there is probably a lot more to do especially moving into the next five years when the rundown of Dounreay may start to have an impact on our community.

David Flear

Chairman, DSG

1st March 2017