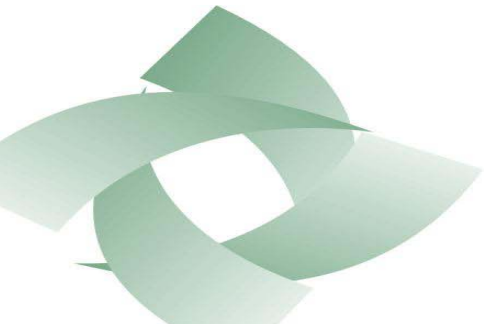


Changes to the Sellafield Site Siren

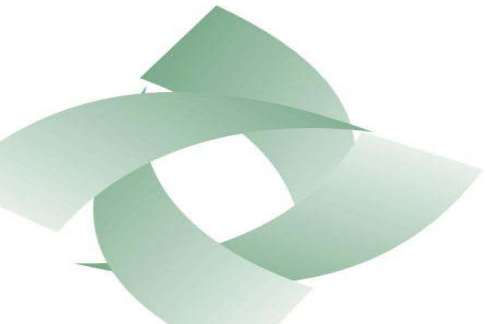
Presented by: David
Moore



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Introduction

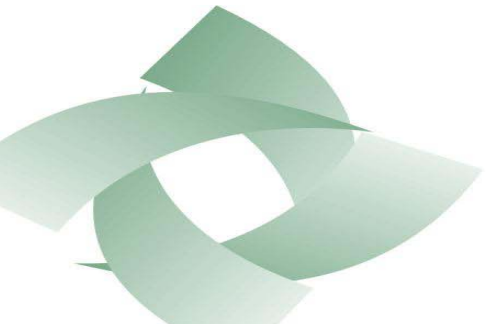
- In 2004 a proposal was brought forward to the Local Liaison Committee to allow sounding of the site siren on declaration of a Site Incident. Objections were raised and the site agreed to review the issue.
- Matter was raised again by BNGSL at WCSSG meeting on 6 April 2006.
- Special WCSSG, EPSC was held on 4 May to discuss.



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How is the Site Siren Currently used?

- The Site Siren is sounded on declaration of a 'Sellafield Emergency'.
- A Sellafield Emergency is declared when there is a hazardous condition on site that is causing, or has the potential to cause, a hazard to the public outside the boundary of the Site.
- The Site Siren is used to get the workforce to take shelter.
- This allows communication with the workforce and enables any personnel at risk to be accounted for (allowing initiation of Search and Rescue for any missing persons in the risk area).



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What is the issue?

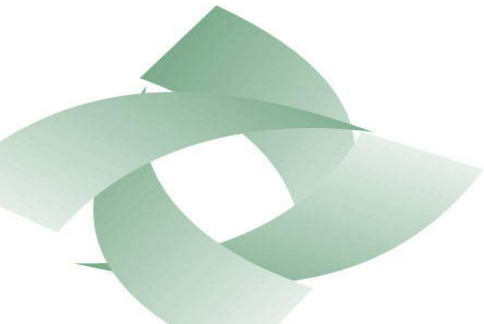
- There are scenarios on site, where there could be a hazard to the workforce but not the public. In such cases a 'Site Incident' is declared.
- In such cases, there would be real safety benefit in being able to warn the workforce to shelter. No mechanism exists to achieve this objective.
- Use of the existing warning system is the obvious solution to safeguard personnel.
- The concern is that sounding the Site Siren at Site Incident will cause concern and alarm to the General Public and that they may as a consequence over react.



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Outcome of Special EPSC Meeting

- use the existing Site Siren where a 'Site Incident' has been declared (in addition to at a Sellafield Emergency), where there is safety benefit in getting the workforce to shelter, or there is a requirement to account for personnel who may be at risk.
- Adapt the telephone warning system to send messages to the local community at both Site Incident and Sellafield Emergency.
- Create a freephone helpline that would allow members of the public to hear a recorded message of the current site status.
- Agreement was provisional on being able to achieve this last point.



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Benefits of the preferred option

- Speed and cost of the change
- The existing telephone warning system can be used to advise the local community of conditions/actions to take appropriate to the emergency state.
- The WCECC is now established at declaration of a site incident. This change will bring the use of the site siren into line with this proactive, early establishment of the emergency management framework.
- This change will not lead to any significant increase in the frequency that the site siren is currently sounded (no Site Incidents were declared in the preceding 10 years).



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