

UKAEA, Windscale Report to the West Cumbria Sites Stakeholder Group**Date: October 2007**

This report covers the period from 1st April 2007 – 30th September 2007

UKAEA

In June, UKAEA opened an office at Westlakes. The team based at Kelton House, will form part of the business arm of UKAEA's limited company. The offices were officially opened by Mark Dixon, Region 3 Director for the Nuclear Decommissioning Authority (NDA). The launch was well attended by members of the stakeholder community.

Safety, Security and Environment

Under the Leadership element of the Safety Improvement Programme (SIP), the Head of Site has made a number of safety awards. To date four JCI employees, one Hertel employee and two contractors have received awards in recognition of their positive attitude to considering and challenging potentially unsafe conditions and 'going the extra mile' to ensure the hazard was isolated and the issues resolved.

The Windscale Safety Improvement Programme and the daily Safety and Environment Assistance Centre (SEAC) forum have been recognised as setting the standard within UKAEA.

There has been one event in this reporting period. This was a >3 day Lost Time Accident (LTA) to a contractor delivering and assembling furniture in Building B7. He pulled a hamstring whilst lifting furniture upstairs despite a number of measures to reduce the risk of injury. This event has been reported to the HSE under the RIDDOR (Reporting of Injuries, Diseases and Dangerous Occurrences Regulations) requirements.

At the end of August, the site had recorded 128 days without an event as defined in UKAEA Windscale procedures. The SEAC identified hand injuries as a significant contributor to the number of injury reports. A Hand Protection Policy was implemented that requires the wearing of protective gloves for 'hands-on' work unless an appropriate risk assessment justifies other action. This has led to a significant reduction in minor cuts and scrapes to hands. There have been no cases of Beyond First Aid treatment during the reporting period.

The rolling 12 month (August 06 to August 07) Total Recordable Incident Rate (TRIR) figure has fallen from 1.19 at the start to 0.932. This is a reflection of

the enhanced awareness of safe working on the site and the improved systematic approach to Safe Systems of Work.

Radiological dose uptake by staff and contractors is tightly controlled and monitored on our site. In July, a higher than expected biological assay result was recorded for a NUKEM employee on our site. The investigation rapidly identified issues with the equipment used to do the analysis. This was confirmed by the company involved and the tests repeated. The new results are at the expected routine levels. This was treated as a genuine uptake until proven otherwise and the affected worker was kept informed of progress at all times and provided with the appropriate technical and medical advice.

As a direct result of the Safety Improvement Programme, people feel more personal responsibility for safety on the site and with the enhanced confidence in our 'no blame' reporting culture, we have seen the Unusual Occurrence reporting figures for the financial year increase by 60% over the same period in 2006. The largest increase relates to reports of unsafe conditions or acts in non-active buildings and outside areas. This is considered to be a very positive result of the increased awareness of the need to report such issues and enables management to act on minor hazards before they develop to larger ones with a potential for serious consequences. All reports are reviewed at the daily SEAC (Safety and Environment Assistance Centre) forum for lessons for the site and wider distribution through the UKAEA Corporate Learning From Experience (LFE) process.

An enhanced focus on sickness absence by the Human Resources team and line managers has seen the sickness absence rolling 12 month rate fall from 7.47 days/employee at the start of the period to 6.87 days/employee. This compares favourably with public and private company absence rates outside of the nuclear industry.

The site has appointed an Environment Manager and strengthened the resource to manage the Low Level Waste contract. The site has produced a list of Environmental Objectives and Targets for 2007-08 as required under ISO 14001 certification. All objectives due by end of August have been completed and in addition, two objectives planned for September 2007 have been completed early.

Appropriate levels of Security are implemented on the Windscale Site. A 'no notice' inspection of our arrangements by the Office for Civil Nuclear Security (OCNS) during the reporting period gave us a clean bill of health.

Windscale Site

The Windscale Transition Project which, aims to amalgamate the Windscale Site with the Sellafield Site, is progressing positively.

The application for the licence instrument to allow restructuring and shadow working was made to NII on 31st July 2007. It is expected that shadow working will commence in October

The joint UKAEA/Sellafield Ltd application to transfer the Windscale Radioactive Substances Act (RSA) Discharge Authorisation has been received by the Environment Agency for consideration.

The date for Transition is 1st April 2008.

Operational Performance (1st April – 30th August 07)

Constraints on funding have required the Windscale team to make adjustments to the Lifetime Plan (LTP) for this financial year 2007/08. Some work has been deferred and there have been a number of persons re-deployed around the site.

Preparation work for the Lifetime Plan for 2008 has begun. We have been advised by the NDA that there will be nominally “flat” funding the next 3 years. This allows planning to continue.

The amount of work planned to be executed by end of August was £16.4 million.

The amount of work actually carried out by end of August was £15.5 million. The Scheduled Performance Index (SPI) for this period is 0.95 (5% behind schedule)

The estimated cost of work to the end of August was £15.5 million.

The actual cost of work to end of August was £15.6 million.

The Cost Performance Index (CPI) = 0.99 (Costs are within 1% of estimate)

Piles Project

During the reporting period, the Piles Decommissioning Team have successfully removed the remaining isotopes from Windscale Pile 2. There are now no isotopes remaining in Pile 2. This project was completed ahead of schedule and under cost and achieved positive media coverage in the press and on political and science based internet sites.

In Pile 1, intrusive inspections of fuel channels in the fire affected zone have been carried out. This is the first time that cameras have been placed in the fire affected zone of the reactor since the fire in 1957. The data gathered supports the existing Fuel and Isotope (F&I) removal strategy and supports the ability of the developed tooling to carry out bulk graphite removal. In addition, sufficient debris has been recovered from camera swabs to allow sampling analysis, thus saving future work and cost expenditure.

WAGR Project

National Low Level Waste Repository approval was received to allow the consignment of low force compacted asbestos as Low Level Waste (LLW). This is a major achievement and enables disposal of significant volumes of waste currently stored within the WAGR facility.

Leased Operations Facility

UKAEA and Nexia solutions have developed an agreed plan for the implementation of the identified improvements and repair rectifications required for the Leased Operations Facility. Progress on the major items associated with the Integrated Safety Improvement Programme is being made including; for example the placing of an order for 2 replacement cranes.

UKAEA retains the accountability for the delivery of work in the Leased Operations Facility and the agreed plan optimises the ability to satisfy key commercial customer requirements while progressing the improvement activities most efficiently.

Additional funding for the work required over and above that approved to date is being sought via a baseline change proposal which is due for submission in September.

Recruitment

Recruitment is ongoing at Windscale to strengthen the team. Four members of Sellafield Limited are currently seconded into the team and are working with us to great effect. This demonstrates a combined approach to working from the Windscale and Sellafield Team.

Forward Programme

The Windscale Team will continue to deliver the programme of work as agreed with the NDA. The Transition of the Windscale Site to Sellafield will be one of the main priorities in the forthcoming six months.

Stakeholder Issues & Site Visits

October 10th marks the 50th anniversary of the Windscale Pile fire. During the period, the Windscale team have hosted visits from the BBC, who are making a documentary on the Windscale Fire and BBC Radio 4 who have produced and will air a play based on the Windscale Fire.

During the period, the Windscale team have continued to support the Site End States consultation workshops which aim to identify the preferred end states for the Sellafield Site (including Windscale and Calder) and the Low Level Waste Repository.

The GENII Induction evenings for the new apprentices and their parents took place over two evenings in late August. UKAEA manned a stand at the

evenings and spoke with many of the new apprentices and their parents about the work of the UKAEA and the nuclear industry.

Felicity Wilson also addressed the first Neighbourhood Forum by giving a talk on the work of the UKAEA in West Cumbria. The initial talk was well received and Fee has been invited to speak to further meetings of the Forum.

Sponsorship

UKAEA were pleased to be able to sponsor the Whitehaven Maritime Festival in June. The UKAEA have well established links with the Whitehaven Maritime Festival and were delighted to sponsor the Catalina Sea Plane at this year's event.

Windscale have also sponsored the Cumbria and North Lancashire UKAEA Vigodny Cup for the third consecutive year.

For the second consecutive year, Windscale is a sponsor of the Copeland Pride awards with Felicity Wilson, Communications Manager appointed as a member of the judging committee.

Head of Site Community Fund

On behalf of the NDA, the Windscale team manage the Head of Site Community Fund. During the period, the following local charities/organisations have benefited from donations:

- Whitehaven in Bloom (Trinity Gardens Schools Planting Day)
- Ulverston Golf Club Charity Challenge
- Cumbria Schools Cricket Association
- Haile Village Play Area Committee
- Mayor of Allerdale Charity Fund
- Royal Victoria Infirmary
- Marie Curie Daffodil Run

Visits

Jamie Reed, MP for Copeland visited Windscale in early July and met with the Senior Management Team as well as members of the Trade Unions and Safety Representatives. Mr Reed was also given the opportunity to meet members of the Windscale Transition Project Team.

Mr Wayne Cocroft from English Heritage visited Windsale in May. Wayne is tasked with writing a book on the history of the Nuclear Industry in England and visited the Piles Facility – Wayne hopes to re-visit site later in the year to visit the Windscale Advanced Gas-cooled Reactor Facility.

Index of Acronyms

NDA	Nuclear Decommissioning Authority
SIP	Safety Improvement Programme
SEAC	Safety and Environment Assistance Centre
LTA	Lost Time Accident
RIDDOR	Reporting of Injuries, Diseases and Dangerous Occurrences Regulations
TRIR	Total Recordable Incident Rate
YTD	Year to Date
LFE	Learning From Experience
OCNS	Office for Civil Nuclear Security
RSA	Radioactive Substances Act
LTP	Life Time Plan
SPI	Scheduled Performance Index
CPI	Cost Performance Index
F&I	Fuel and Isotopes
LLW	Low Level Waste