



# NEWS Committee

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December 2007

**Welcome to the December edition of the committee news. This is the sixth edition of the information bulletin designed to keep you up to date with activities occurring in between the quarterly meetings of the WCSSG.**

**In this edition you will find a 2008 calendar of events outlining all the WCSSG meeting times/dates and venues. As always the calendar can be found on the website (for future changes see calendar of events) at the address shown above.**

## National Stakeholder Chairs Forum:

I reported in the last edition of the committee news that a new forum was to be established where the Chairmen of all the Site Stakeholder Groups would meet to discuss common interests and issues.

The first of these meetings was held on 20th November prior to the NDA National Stakeholder Group meeting. It was chaired by David Moore who was elected to Chair the forum at the last National Stakeholder Group meeting.

Items on the agenda included the terms of reference for the group, harmonisation of all Site Stakeholder Groups and current issues which are affecting all groups, such as funding and new build proposals.

Richard Smith, Chairman of Sizewell 'A' and 'B' stakeholder Group was voted in as the Vice Chairman of the forum.

Following the meeting, David Moore and Richard Smith representing the group met with Richard Griffin of the NDA to highlight the issues/suggestions that were raised.

Speaking about the forum David Moore said, "I feel that the forum, when fully established, will be a powerful voice with regard to national issues. Some emotive issues were raised which affect the whole group and I feel that speaking with one voice will help to highlight concerns where it counts."

A note for the record and the draft terms of reference can be found on the WCSSG website.

# Windscale Transition Update

Following months of hard work and commitment from the Windscale and Sellafield Transition Project team, consent was received from the NII on the 13th September to start organisational changes which would enable the amalgamation of the Windscale and Sellafield sites.

As a result, Peter Mann, Head of Site for Windscale, gave authorisation for shadow working with Sellafield Ltd to begin on the 22nd October. The period of shadow working is required to demonstrate that all organisational changes and management systems are in place in preparation for the license application by Sellafield Ltd. The team will work to the new organisation's arrangements, mirroring how operations and working arrangements will be carried out when Sellafield Ltd is granted the Nuclear Site Licence for the Windscale site.

The period of shadow working with Sellafield Ltd is scheduled to last until 31st March 2008 as the scheduled date for transition to Sellafield Ltd is 1st April 2008.

Following the announcement of shadow working, the NII visited Windscale and met with members of the Transition Project Team and other work stream leaders. It is expected that the NII will regularly monitor the shadow working processes culminating in a compliance check against the management of change prospectus in the New Year.

The NII recognised the commitment and efforts of all Windscale staff and the Transition Project Team that enabled shadow working to begin ahead of schedule. Feedback received on the visit as a whole was favourable.

Briefings were held to explain what shadow working and the organisational changes would mean to staff. Since then, a number of communication events have been held at Windscale: one event focussed on explaining how the business systems and processes will be carried out after the transfer, another communicated how current UKAEA roles will be mapped to Sellafield broad roles.

The UKAEA Windscale Transition Programme Manager, Phil Scriven said: "It is important that we continue to speak to staff regularly and keep them informed during this period of change. We have regular communication events to update staff on changes which may have an impact on them. We also have an effective tool whereby people can submit questions through the transition pages on the intranet if they have issues or concerns that they would like to be addressed.

The Project Team has demonstrated a high level of team working from both the Windscale and Sellafield teams which bodes well for the future integration of the sites."

# NDA Draft Business Plan 2008/2011

The Nuclear Decommissioning Authority has published its draft business plan for 2008 to 2011.

The plan, which is subject to consultation, outlines the key challenges and priorities for the NDA over the next three years and takes into account additional Government funding which will result in an increase of £671 million compared with the 2004 spending review. This takes the total expenditure to £8.5 billion over the plan period, an increase of 8.5% compared with the last funding settlement.

The draft plan outlines how the NDA proposes to allocate its funding over the next three years in order to make further progress against its approved strategy. The plan also shows an increasing focus of resources on the highest hazards, continued investment in those facilities that generate revenue to offset the costs of decommissioning and a requirement on NDA contractors to provide value for money and improved efficiency on behalf of the UK taxpayer.

In line with the NDA strategy, the priority is focused on hazard reduction and the NDA will focus on the sites that require the most work. The majority of funds over the next three years will be directed towards Sellafield and Dounreay.

The consultation will close on January 21st 2008; members who wish to respond to the consultation should do so either on line via the NDA website : [www.ndabusiness.dialoguebydesign.net](http://www.ndabusiness.dialoguebydesign.net), by letter, fax or e-mail to NDA Business Plan Consultation, FREEPOST SEA 12430, Thornton Heath CR7 7XT, Tel: 020 8683 6833, Fax: 020 8683 6601 or e-mail: [facilitators@dialoguebydesign.com](mailto:facilitators@dialoguebydesign.com)

## Calendar of Events

Attached with this edition of the committee news is your calendar of events for 2008. As reported at the last WCSSG meeting in October, the next meetings of the Windscale sub committee and the Calder Hall sub committee will be the last.

With the transition of Windscale and Sellafield and the re-deferral of Calder Hall the WCSSG will be re-structured to better reflect the areas it scrutinises.

Three new sub-committees will hopefully be up and running in 2008 focusing on, socio economics, commercial operations and decommissioning and clean-up.

Chairman David Moore praised the work of both sub committees 'The Windscale and Calder sub committees have done a fantastic job over the last year keeping members informed of progress and issues. I would like to thank the Chairs and the secretariat of both of those committees for their commitment and hope that they will lend their expertise if required to the new sub committees.'

The calendar of events will be re-circulated when further details are known about the new arrangements.

## Energy Choices 2007:

WCSSG Chairman David Moore was invited by the Nuclear Industry Association to present at the Energy Choices 2007 conference in London on 6th December.

The key end of year conference for the UK nuclear industry was dedicated to analysis and debate surrounding public opinion of the industry and is looking at how the nuclear industry communicates with its local communities, the media and other key stakeholders.

David's presentation focused on how communications with the nuclear industry particularly Sellafield, has evolved over the years from being on a need-to-know basis in the 50' and 60's into the more open and transparent communications of today.

David's presentation was well received and provoked a lot of discussion outside of the meeting.

Copies of David's slides with bullet points can be found on the WCSSG website.

## Next Meeting

The next meeting of the WCSSG will be on Thursday 3rd January 2008 at Cleator Moor Civic Hall at 1300hrs.

The event will take the format of a 'drop in' day where the NDA will be available to answer your questions on the NDA socio economic plan, the site end states consultation and the NDA's strategic review process.

Members of the Site Licence Companies will also be available to update you on decommissioning progress and the Windscale transition programme.

The Chairman would like to wish all members a very Merry Christmas and a happy New Year.



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Stakeholder Group**

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