

# NEWS Committee

[www.wcssg.co.uk](http://www.wcssg.co.uk)

December 2008

Welcome to the December issue of the Committee News. This is the tenth issue of the information bulletin designed to keep you up to date with activities occurring in between the quarterly meetings of the West Cumbria Sites Stakeholder Group (WCSSG).

In this issue is information about Sellafield Ltd's new Parent Body Organisation, the NDA workshop to support geological disposal, a WCSSG workshop on plutonium disposition options, the National Stakeholder Group meeting in November and the National Stakeholder Group Chairs Forum.

You will find a 2009 calendar of events outlining all the WCSSG meeting times/dates and venues on the website (for future changes – see calendar of events) at the address shown above.

## WCSSG members witness momentous moment for Sellafield

On 24 November, several WCSSG members attended an event at the Sellafield Centre, which marked the completion of the NDA programme to secure a new PBO for Sellafield Ltd. The event heralded the transition to the new management arrangements and the signing of a partnering charter.

WCSSG members were amongst an audience of invited stakeholders drawn from the nuclear industry, regulators, community, supply chain representatives and workforce representatives.

The WCSSG would like to welcome and congratulate Nuclear Management Partners and look forward to working together closely in the future.



Signing of the partnership charter.

## NDA workshop to support geological disposal

In October the NDA held a workshop to consult and seek the views of stakeholders on developing a framework for public and stakeholder engagement and communications around the geological disposal of radioactive waste.

WCSSG Chairman, David Moore attended the workshop, where the NDA sought views on when and with whom to engage, mechanisms for engagement, what to communicate and how often.

David provided valuable feedback stating that as Copeland Borough Council has lodged an 'Expression of Interest' with regards to the siting of an underground repository, any siting partnership would need all available information a lot sooner than perhaps the NDA anticipates.

## WCSSG workshop on plutonium disposition options

A workshop which allowed local stakeholders to voice their views on whether they considered plutonium an asset or liability was held in October. Following an earlier NDA workshop, the WCSSG event enabled wide-ranging and varied discussions on the subject.

The comments and themes which came out of the workshop do not represent the formal position of the WCSSG on the use or disposal of civil plutonium, but rather the views of those who took part. The workshop gave the community the opportunity to begin to engage with the NDA at an early stage in decision-making on this important topic.

The workshop also allowed participants to question the NDA in order to gain a greater understanding of the NDA's process, the options considered and to express individual views.

We hope that the comments will prove of use to the NDA in their future work on plutonium disposition and look forward to a continuing dialogue on this topic over the coming years as policy and strategy are developed.

## National stakeholder group chairs forum:

The National Stakeholder Group Chairs Forum was held on 4 November, prior to the NDA National Stakeholder Group meeting. This relatively new forum gives the opportunity for the Chairmen of all the Site Stakeholder Groups to meet and discuss common interests and issues.

The meeting was chaired by David Moore and items on the agenda included current issues which are affecting all groups and a review of the NDA's local arrangements for stakeholders.

A note for the record can be found on the WCSSG website.

Members were also given the opportunity to attend the launch of the NDA's National Skills Strategy, which was hosted by NDA Chairman, Stephen Henwood. The aim of the skills strategy is to raise the industry's profile as an employer of choice for existing, potential and future employees, and to create a world class, sustainable workforce for the UK's nuclear decommissioning mission. The launch detailed actions required to achieve success and showcased many examples of good practice already underway.

## National stakeholder group meeting

Several members of WCSSG attended the National Stakeholder Group meeting held at Manchester in November, where they received some very informative presentations from the NDA on future engagement. Discussions were held on the way forward for stakeholder engagement and whether the National Stakeholder Group, in its current format, was considered as the best use of people's time.

The NDA launched their 2009-2012 Business Plan, and their Strategy Management Systems (a developing document), giving attendees the chance to raise any issues or ask questions.

## Next Meetings

The next meeting of the WCSSG will be on Thursday 8 January 2009 at the Sellafield Centre at 1400hrs.

The meeting will take the form of presentations from the NDA, Sellafield Ltd and LLW Repository Limited.

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

## Future Meetings

Tuesday 13 Jan	Commercial sub committee, Ennerdale Country House Hotel	1230 - 1530
Tuesday 10 Feb	Decommissioning sub committee, Whitehaven Civic Hall	1300 - 1600
Tuesday 3 Mar	Socio economic sub committee, Ennerdale Country House Hotel	1300 - 1600
Monday 9 Mar	Emergency Planning sub committee, Ennerdale Country House Hotel	1400 - 1615
Wednesday 11 Mar	Low Level Waste sub Committee, Drigg Village Hall	1400 - 1600



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