

West Cumbria Sites Stakeholder Group (WCSSG)

Community Engagement Co-ordinating Sub-committee

Minutes from the fourth Meeting of the Community Engagement Co-ordinating Sub-committee held on the 26th August 2005 at the Copeland Centre.

1 Welcome and apologies

As there were a number of new members, introductions were made from attendees.

Attendees:

Core members

Cllr Elaine Woodburn (Copeland Borough Council, Chair)
Mrs Claire Tandy (UKAEA)
Ms Shirley Williams (British Nuclear Group)
Mr Ron Hargreaves (Parish Council)
Prof Steve Jones (Westlakes Research Institute)
Mr Martin Forwood (CORE)
Mr Richard Mrowicki (NDA)
Mr Tim Heslop (Cumbria County Council)
Mr Stuart Bowe (West Cumbria Business Community)
Mr Adrian Dalton (CALC)
Paul McKenna (Isle of Man Government)

Others in attendance

Rev John Hetherington (Cumbria County Council)
Amanda MacMillan (British Nuclear Group – WCSSG support)

Apologies received: Cllr C McCarron-Holmes, Mr P Kane, Mrs F Wilson.

Watching brief: Mr G Williams (NII), Mr A Mayell (Environment Agency).

2 Ratification of minutes from previous meeting

Minutes from previous meeting (3) were ratified.

3 Actions from previous Community Engagement Co-ordinating Sub-committee held on the 24th June 2005 (Meeting 3)

Action 3.1 – Phil Hallington and Tony Bishop to develop a common approach to reporting progress against NTWP's

Ongoing

Action 3.2 – Secretariat to send appropriate letter to the organisations outlined in the core membership list.

Rosina Robinson co-ordinated correspondence with organisations and collated new membership nominations. Complete

Action 3.3 - Secretariat to produce an annual calendar in format suitable for distribution in various media.

Calendar will be available on website from 6th October. Hard copies will also be available. Complete

Action 3.4 - Secretariat to circulate dates for single issue discussion sessions.

Ongoing

Action 3.5 – Steve Jones, Peter Clarke and John Hetherington to send their availability to SW in order to arrange a meeting.

Still awaiting mutually convenient dates.

Action 3.6 – Secretariat to explore the potential for a WCSSG drop-in centre at the Visitors' Centre.

Proposals and costs being developed. Ongoing.

4 Formal ratification of the Terms of Reference

A few minor changes were noted to the Terms of Reference.

- Objective : replace nuclear decommissioning activities with “the NDA scope of work”
- The term chairperson to replace reference to chairman.
- Withdraw ONION representative as a core member as it is not appropriate to supply a member as it is a co-ordinating forum only. It was noted that persons may be co-opted into core membership.
- Re-word representation “drawn from the membership of the British/Irish Council.

These terms of reference to be circulated for final ratification at the meeting on the 30th September, prior to presentation at the West Cumbria Sites Stakeholder Group on the 6th October 2005 (proposed by Tim Heslop, seconded by Brian Bowe).

5 Discuss NDA strategy implications on WCSSG consultations

The deadline for consultation on the NDA strategy is 11th November. The NDA draft strategy will then seek formal approval by the Sec. of State on 1st April 2006. Subject to review this strategy will be reviewed at least every 5 years. The NDA will present their draft strategy at the next WCSSG, focusing on local implications.

A comment was made that this was yet another rapid consultations and time was required to ensure confidence in comments passed. It was commented that the NDA intent is for each SSG to develop process to review end states at sites individually. This will result in a decision endorsed by the community to form a record of agreement to input into decision making process. The question was asked if this record would be open to revision. Yes, the issue of the site end point would be a live

record and subject to review with the community. The LCBL will reflect the record of decisions through the community engagement process.

The question was asked if end points would be the same at each site nationally. No, each site would have its own considerations. It was noted that any options for consultation with the community must be realistic and feasible. It was noted that certain sites will be more complex than others (e.g. the Sellafield Site).

Inevitably community views will alter as time goes by, it was commented that there must not be too many constraints to change. The LCBL will provide a mechanism for change to occur.

A concern over inter-site trading of end-points was raised. Each community will have a view but there will be sensitivity around sites that would achieve a green field site as somewhere will have to house the waste. The sub-committee members were asked for their thoughts?

- End points will be unique to each site but all will be interlinked. The NDA is working with communities to allow locally received end points. It was suggested this was an important issue to raise in the community.
- The desired end point and a strategic end point may be contradictory and difficult to finalise until other important consultations that impact the planning of end points are closed and policy decisions made e.g. CoWRM in mid 2006.

Discussions focused on collation of a response from the WCSSG. It was felt that it would not be possible to produce a combined view from all of the membership and suggested a response from the chairman to welcome the consultation would be appropriate. Responses should be prepared by individual organisations or personally.

Action 4.1 : Rosina Robinson to ask David Moore to comment re: responding to NDA draft strategy in Chairman's speech for WCSSG on the 6th October.
(Encouraging members to respond from individual organisations or personally)

- The aim of consultation is to identify opinions, the NDA is accountable for decision making.
- It was recognised that it was important for the NDA to demonstrate where and why views are being taken into consideration and if not, why. Plea not to let comments disappear without any explanation.

6 Timetable for single issue topic participants

- It has been agreed that the "Future of Sellafield" will be the first issue for consultation. This fits with the NDA strategy (site end point) and introduces exploration of open questions that are related to the site end point. Instead of waiting to see what happens the community can be proactive. There is a potential for communities to propose and provide solutions to the NDA/Government. A comment was made that communities offering solutions would likely find favour, converting opportunities into reality.

- As part of the framework document expectations will be set to take into consideration the output of other decision making processes. This is a start to deciding the future of Sellafield as part of an ever developing plan.
- Task of this sub-committee to facilitate options without raising expectations too high. Provide community with information on issues and mechanisms to allow them to be involved.

A preview of the web-site was given to members. It should be noted that this web-site is in transition and still under construction. www.wcssg.co.uk

Action 4.2 - All members are asked to send comments and suggestions on the web-site to A.MacMillan or Rosina Robinson before the next meeting.

A question was asked if there were any plans to scan paper archive minutes.

It was highlighted that access to information and two-way communication should not only be via electronic access, people should not be excluded if they do not have electronic access. How do we alert people who do not have access? The group was informed that leading up to the 6th October media promotion (both advertising and editorial) would be initiated to raise interest and participation.

Members were asked to suggest how to pass on information, what events could be attended to populate an autumn programme of engagement.

Agenda item for next meeting: What are the key things to highlight on the web-site?

The existence of a consultation register was highlighted; this will provide information for a people database for future consultations. Does your organisation wish a link, what would you like to see, again please feel free to feedback any comments.

The sub-committee agreed that AGR consultation should be one of the single issue consultations for this financial year. Expected to begin after October. Another suggestion was socio-economic plans.

Action 4.3 – Approve site end state framework document at the next CECSC meeting in September to allow consultation in October.

Action 4.4 - Discuss next framework documents for AGR fuel, Interim storage of ILW not generated on site and request to include socio-economic plans as another single issue topic as an agenda item at the next meeting. The recommended single issue topics should be raised in the report given to the WCSSG on the 6th October 2005 for comment/approval.

7 Further discussion of Key Issue Paper produced

This paper was noted and it was felt the points are being suitably developed.

8 AOB

Summary of Actions

Actions from Meeting 4

Action 4.1 : Rosina Robinson to ask David Moore to comment re: responding to NDA draft strategy in Chairman's speech for WCSSG on the 6th October.
(Encouraging members to respond from individual organisations or personally)

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Ongoing Actions from Meeting 3

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Action 3.4 - Secretariat to circulate dates for single issue discussion sessions.

Action 3.5 – Steve Jones, Peter Clarke and John Hetherington to send their availability to SW in order to arrange a meeting.

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