

## Decommissioning Directorate Report to the Decommissioning Sub Committee

### Directorate Business & Safety Performance Statistics from April 2010-End of Period 4 (July 2010)

<b>RIR</b> Recordable Incident Rate	<b>0.42 for Decommissioning Directorate</b> (This is lower than the Sellafield Site statistic which is currently 0.61)			
<b>LTAR</b> Lost Time Accident Rate (Rolling 12 month rate)	<b>0.30</b> (This is lower than the Sellafield Site Statistic which is currently 0.41)			
<b>CPI</b> Cost Performance Index	<b>1.11</b> This is a positive out turn meaning that each pounds worth of work was delivered for 89p meaning a cost saving of 11p in every pound spent.			
<b>SPI</b> Scheduled Performance Index	<b>0.95</b> This means that 95% of the scheduled work was delivered within the period.			
<b>Performance Based Incentives (PBIs) 09/10</b>	<b>Target</b>	<b>On Target</b>	<b>Achieved</b>	<b>At Risk</b>
<b>Overall Directorate Figures</b>	21	17	1	3
<b>Magnox Swarf Storage Silo</b>	6	5	0	1**
<b>Magnox First Generation Storage Pond</b>	6	4	1	1**
<b>Pile Fuel Storage Pond</b>	2	1	0	1**
<b>Solid Waste Storage Silo</b>	3	3	0*	0
<b>Site Remediation and Decommissioning Projects</b>	3	3	0	0
<b>Directorate</b>	2	2	0	0

\*One PBI has since been achieved in Period 5.

\*\* A programme of work is being planned to accelerate work so that the PBIs which are currently at risk can be met.

## **Decommissioning Directorate Update**

- Since the last meeting, the Sellafield Site has commenced a Voluntary Severance Programme (VSP). VSP is an integral part in the overall approach to managing within the Annual Site Funding Limit (ASFL) for the financial year 2010/11 and beyond. VSP is an opportunity to manage future resources in a way which continues to deliver the benefits of efficiencies, while aligning more closely with the fundamental Site priority of accelerating high hazard and risk reduction.

In line with the Voluntary Severance Programme, a Management of Change document, relating to the VSP and Agency Supplied Workers release, has been submitted to the Decommissioning Directorate Management of Change Committee for noting. This paper will be submitted to the site's Nuclear Safety Committee for endorsement on the 2<sup>nd</sup> September 2010. In parallel, in compliance with Site License requirements, the assessment is being sent to the NII for their period of consideration.

Throughout the VSP programme, nuclear safety is and remains the Site's and Directorate's number one priority.

- In line with the site priorities of High Hazard and High Risk reduction the decision has been made to scale down the programme of work at Windscale.

Operations and cave line refurbishment works in the Active Handling Facility will continue in accordance with Life Time Plan 10 (LTP10), however responsibility for execution of cave line refurbishment works will transfer to the National Nuclear Laboratory (NNL) from the end of August.

In the Redundant Active Handling Facility decommissioning operations will cease but the Safety Case Improvement Action plan work will be completed and the facility will be placed in a state of surveillance and maintenance.

Pile 1 decommissioning operations will cease as soon as it is practical to do so, and Pile 1 and Pile 2 will then be placed in a state of surveillance and maintenance.

Finally, work on the WAGR decommissioning activities will continue to an acceptable conclusion within available funding.

Windscale care requirements covering facilities placed in surveillance and maintenance will also be reviewed to ensure that Safety and Site Licence compliance is maintained.

- The Decommissioning Directorate has recently presented the Annual Review of Environmental Health, Safety and Quality (EHS&Q) to the regulator community. Feedback on the presentation was positive.

## **Decommissioning Project Area Updates**

### **Pile Fuel Storage Pond**

- Following the removal of a number of skips from the pond floor earlier in the year, the team has now commenced operations to mobilise sludge and transfer it into the in pond corral. This is a positive step forward as the sludge will be stored in modern standard containment prior to being processed through the Local Sludge Treatment Plant (LSTP).

### **Magnox First Generation Storage Pond**

- A significant step forward in hazard reduction has been taken in the Magnox First Generation Storage Pond with the delivery and installation of a pond purge. The unit will be used to treat pond water and reduce dose uptake to workers during future retrieval operations.
- The manufacture of the Hot Tap Test Rig was completed on 23<sup>rd</sup> July 2010 which was well in advance of the stretched target of 21<sup>st</sup> August. This rig replicates the physical plant geometry and enables operatives to train on techniques which will be used when they carry out isolations of the Redundant Effluent and Sludge Pipework System (RESPs).

### **Magnox Swarf Storage Silo**

- The first successful transfer of 14,800 litres of historic radioactive liquid waste has been carried out in the Magnox Swarf Storage Silo. The process, known as Liquor Activity Reduction (LAR), removes active liquor from the silo and transfers it via the Effluent Distribution Tanks (EDT) to the Site Ion Exchange Effluent Plant (SIXEP) where the active effluent is treated.

This first production transfer marks the start of a scheduled programme of LAR movements to SIXEP designed to reduce the activity of silo liquor by about 90% over the next three or four years. Following this, the solid waste inventory will be removed from the facility, processed and encapsulated for safe long term storage.

- The Magnox Swarf Storage Silo team has achieved five years without any Lost Time Accidents (LTA) requiring more than 3 days off work.

Since the last > 3 day LTA in 2005 there has been a wide range of high hazard activities undertaken within the programme of work including: significant construction activities in the Box Transfer Facility, demolition works within the Silos Direct Encapsulation Plant, and a whole range of

conventional and radiologically challenging improvement works in the B38 plant itself.

### **Solid Waste Storage Silo**

- In preparation for the start of waste retrievals from the Solid Waste Storage Silo, a new passive Off Gas System has been introduced to replace the current forced ventilation system. This system will bring about a significant reduction in argon gas usage of at least 50% a year which will result in a cost saving of about £140k.

### **Site Remediation and Decommissioning Projects**

- A 10 year programme of work has recently been concluded to meet a Nuclear Installations Inspectorate License Instrument Specification for the continued safe operation of one of their facilities as an interim beta gamma waste store. This detailed programme of work has included activities such as the removal of wastes, installation of cell covers and the construction and cladding of a new overbuilding.

This work has lowered dose rates to workers and has brought the facility up to modern engineering standards.

- The first piles have been drilled for the construction of the new Separation Area Ventilation (SAV) stack. The stack will enable diversion of ventilation streams from existing legacy facilities to a new purpose built ventilation facility.