

# Presentation to WCSSG, Commercial Sub Committee

*Mike Johnson, Executive Director Production  
Operations*

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Sellafield Ltd

## Key strategic role

- Supports delivery of two key hazard reduction activities:
  - HA Liquor Treatment and Product Storage & Return
  - Magnox Operating Programme (MOP)
- Supports AGR generation and NDA revenue generation

# Main Facilities / Operations

- Magnox Reprocessing
  - Magnox Operating Programme
  - Receipt and Storage of AGR fuel
  - Management of Pu and U Products
- High Level Waste Plants
  - Storage of HAL and Vitrification
- Vitrified Residue Returns (VRR)
  - Management of the overseas return of HA Waste
- Effluent and Encapsulation
  - Management of ILW and Aqueous Waste
- Waste Plants
  - Management of PCM and Low Level Waste

# Key issues (1)

## Magnox

- Need for continued improvement in plant reliability and condition

## HLWP

- Disruption of cooling water. The immediate cause was an isolation valve was opened when it is normally closed. Plant recovered within defined time parameters.
- Evaporator B operations held for two weeks whilst a structured investigation was completed on an activity spike within the CCCW. Plant now confirmed available to support Magnox Operations
- Line 3 return to service at an advanced stage with final readiness reviews currently underway.
- REF readiness review for Phase 3 of licensing underway.
- Active Commissioning of REF and preparation of first returns to Japan and Holland

## Key issues (2)

### Vitrified Residue Return (VRR)

- The first return timescales are being discussed in detail with key stakeholders including customers

### Effluent and Encapsulation

- Long term storage of ILW drums
- Deal with EA concerns over liquid effluent solids abatement

### Waste

- Implementation of the recently approved LLW strategy particularly in the areas of waste avoidance, measurement and re-classification
- Further improvement in performance of the PCM compaction facility (WTC) to achieve 1665 compactions
- Re-organisation of the waste unit to provide a complete integrated waste service to the whole of Sellafield site for ILW, PCM and LLW

# Key achievements (1)

## Magnox

- Following the engineering outage, reprocessing plants operated well in the last quarter of 2008/09 narrowly missing the year end target by ~1 weeks worth of decanning.
- British Energy flask demands have been met in the period.
- AGR dismantling attained good rates on restart and ended 2008/09 only 1tes behind the year end target.
- Two significant safety achievements in the first period of 2009/10
  - Calder Hall awarded a ROSPA Presidential Award for achievement for 10 successive gold awards
  - Five years since the last LTA in Uranium Finishing Plant – significant achievement considering two major outages have taken place and considerable engineering work carried out

## HLWP

- HAL stocks remain below 1000m<sup>3</sup>. All three Evaporators available to support Vitrification and Reprocessing
- At the end of Period 2, 104 containers had been produced against a planned forecast of 79 year to date. Incorporation rates are 33% greater than flow-sheet.
- Customer audits of REF have been successfully completed and support return schedule.
- Commissioning of Residue Export Facility is progressing in accordance with the required schedule

## Key achievements (2)

### Vitrified Residue Returns (VRR)

- The infrastructures to enable the first returns to Japan and Holland are in place:
  - Residue Export Facility [In active commissioning]
  - Rail wagon
  - Flask
  - Ship
- The first return is planned for financial year 2009/10
- Final arrangements with key stakeholders are underway to determine the detail timing of the return

## Key achievements (3)

### Effluent and Encapsulation

- No LTA in MBGWS for 12 years
- PS1 Floc tank now empty. Almost 1000m<sup>3</sup> of hazardous liquid effluent has now been encapsulated and is in safe storage
- Stores drum receipt rates are improving off the back of an engineering and operational improvement programme
- 1000m<sup>3</sup> Legacy Salt Evaporator Concentrate was transferred to safe storage

### Waste

- Implementation PCM stores re-organisation and risk based processing
- Ramp up of operations in WTC compacting and grouting 1220 PCM drums to programme whilst improving reliability and availability
- On site metals recycling facility processed and released 650 tonnes for release back into the commercial re-cycling market
- No lost time accidents in the operating unit for over two and a half years

## In conclusion

- Nuclear and conventional safety performance much improved
- 40% reduction in LTA's compared with 2007/08
- >12 months since the last EA classified environmental event
- Majority of operational targets are either on or ahead of schedule
- The issues facing the Directorate are understood and are being dealt with