

Report to the West Cumbria Sites Stakeholder Group Emergency Planning Sub Committee on Emergency Exercises

Introduction

This is a summary of the issues arising from the formal exercises held by the Site Emergency Planning Office for the period since the last meeting. The dates for exercises planned for the period up to the next meeting are listed at the end. It should be noted that no exercises have been held on the Windscale site since the last meeting.

Exercises Held

There were two site exercises, as follows:

24th September 2009 A Roll Call and Communications exercises which the site hold twice yearly. This exercise was used to drive the Level 3 exercise OSCAR 9. The main on site issues were:

- Speed and quality of communications to the workforce, the press and countermeasure advice to external agencies needs to be improved
- Incident Control Centres (ICC) and Access Control Points (ACP) need a better understanding of Sellafield Fire & Rescue (SF&RS) protocols and procedures
- The need to minimise delays in the handling and transfer of contaminated casualties to local hospitals
- There was a good response by Site personnel
- Good roll call of Site personnel
- There was very good operation of the ICC/ACP

22nd October 2009 A Level 1 exercise which the site is required to hold twice yearly. The main issues were:

- There was a lost opportunity to gather information relating to the event scene, by questioning SF&RS about what they had seen at the incident area.
- No HP&S Monitor accompanied the casualty in the ambulance.
- Some communications with building controllers were verbal rather than by fax.
- There was sometimes a lack of common understanding between the ICC and ACP e.g. obstructions of the leak area.
- The positive value of 1:1 briefs between the Site Emergency Controller and the Incident Controller.

Future Exercises

11th March 2010 Roll Call and Communications exercise

27th May 2010 Level 1 demonstration exercise