



Studsvik UK Ltd Metal Recycling Facility, Lillyhall - Report to the West Cumbria Sites Stakeholder Group October 2009

Introduction

This report is prepared and issued to demonstrate the Studsvik UK Ltd commitment to the local community of being open and transparent in relation to their operations at its Metal Recycling Facility (MRF) at Lillyhall, Workington. This report ensures that the information is available to members of the public and is for distribution to the members of the West Cumbria Sites Stakeholder Group (WCSSG). This report is produced on a six monthly basis by the Studsvik UK MRF site as a Nuclear Site Licence holder for issue to the members.

In recent months Studsvik UK as an organisation have been subject to a major change in reorganisation and a summary is included in the report.

A major milestone for the MRF was achieved during this period and the Licence Instrument granting consent to receive nuclear matter onto the MRF site for the first time was issued by the NII and came into effect on 01st September 2009.

This is the first report since the completion of the construction phase and is produced at the time of commencement of first operations and receipt of waste onto the site and is produced to update the members of the current operational status of the site and will cover the following areas:

- Studsvik UK Organisation
- Operations
- Health, Safety, Environment and Security
- Community engagement
- Recruitment
- Forward programme

The reports will be produced and issued prior to the WCSSG scrutiny meetings and will be made available on the Studsvik UK website: www.studsvik.co.uk and the WCSSG website: www.wcssg.co.uk

Studsvik UK Organisation

In June Studsvik UK Limited had a change of President with Mark Lyons being replaced by Sam Usher. As part of this change the organisation has restructured to meet the current economic climate.

This organisational change has no affect with regard to the responsibilities of Studsvik UK as a Nuclear Site Licensee or the management responsibilities on the MRF Site.

These organisational changes were communicated to the regulators and featured in the local media.

Operations

Construction work on the site was completed and the site handed over by the Principal Contractor at the end of April. Studsvik continued with the installation of the size reduction and decontamination equipment. This enabled non-active commissioning to be completed in July.

The first shipments of waste for processing were successfully received onto the MRF site on 03rd September. The shipments consisted of 12 Half Height ISO containers containing scrap metal drums from LLWR. The 12 containers were transported to the Port of Workington via rail and completed the short journey to the site by road transport.

Processing of the waste as part of the active commissioning operations has commenced and 1 full container has been processed with contents of the 2nd container currently unloaded and undergoing size reduction.

Health, Safety, Environment and Security

Studsvik UK continues to strive towards the highest possible health, safety, environmental and security standards and continually improve its performance in these areas by implementing and maintaining systems and practices that are appropriate to the company's activities, services and those of a Nuclear Site Licensee. This was recognised when Studsvik were awarded the prestigious RoSPA Occupational Health and Safety Award for the Engineering Construction Industry Sector in 2009.

Studsvik UK, including the MRF, sets very high standards to ensure that the health safety and welfare of all staff, contractors and visitors on the site is maintained to a high standard. The current statistics since the completion of the construction phase for the MRF are as follows

- Accident Incident Rate (AIR) 0
- Accident Frequency Rate (AFR) 0
- Accident Severity Rate (ASR) 0

Since the handover from construction and the move into equipment installation, commissioning and, operations the MRF site has achieved in excess of 10,000 man hours without a LTA or first aid injury.

The MRF carried out a Level 1 demonstration Emergency Exercise observed by the NII on 09th June 2009. The demonstration was assessed by the NII as adequate. The MRF has been assessed under the requirements of the Radiation Emergency Planning and Public Information Regulations (REPPiR) 2001 and the MRF does not have the potential to have a Radiation Emergency as defined in REPPiR.

At the end of July the EA and NII carried out a joint inspection and assessment of the site and its management arrangements. This inspection was to assess the sites readiness to receive nuclear material. The Licence Instrument granting consent was issued on the 28th August and came into effect on the 01st September.

The Office for Civil Nuclear Security approved the MRF Site Security Plan in August

The requirements of the Certificate of Authorisation issued under the Radioactive Substances Act 1993 are fully implemented.

Community Engagement

As a local employer Studsvik UK values the support of the local community and continues to engage with it on several fronts in the area. Due to the company reorganisation and the focus on the readiness of the MRF to receive radioactive waste all existing commitments continue to be honoured. As the facility becomes established into full operations community engagement will increase and will be reviewed on a regular basis with the development of a community support fund to support, where reasonably possible, projects that enhance the sporting, cultural, educational and environmental quality in West Cumbria.

Recruitment

Recruitment to meet the minimum manning levels required to take the MRF through active commissioning and into full operations has been completed. It is envisaged that the next campaign of recruitment will commence in early 2010. This phase of recruitment in the main will be skilled and semi skilled operatives who will be taken from the local West Cumbria community.

Forward Programme

Operations will continue to process the remainder of the first LLWR consignment and waste received from other customers in support of the active commissioning of the facility.

Customer liaison and visits to other potential customer sites will increase.

The active commissioning phase will be completed and documentation to support the move into full operations will be produced and submitted to the NII.

The next phase of recruitment will commence at a rate dependant on facility throughput.