

Presentation to WCSSG, Commercial Sub-Committee - Thorp

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on behalf of Director, Thorp*

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Thorp Key Strategic Role & Facilities

Key Strategic Role:

- Brings significant revenue into NDA
- Maintains UK AGR generation capability

Facilities:

- Thermal oxide reprocessing (Thorp)
 - UK AGR reprocessing and storage
 - Overseas Light Water Reactor (PWR/BWR) reprocessing
- Oxide Fuel Storage Ponds
 - Storage facilities for spent nuclear fuel

Directly employs 900 people & a further 200 site functional support

Key Issues for Thorp

- Downstream availability of High Active Liquor Management
 - HA Evaporator B operational in support of magnox HAL, leaving
 - HA Evaporator C operational in support of oxide HAL
 - overall evaporator capacity limited
- Current production restricted, creating several pressure points that need short term management. These issues have potential to impact on long term strategy
 - safe storage and reprocessing of UK AGR fuel
 - reprocessing of remaining overseas fuel
 - economics of THORP business
 - impact on future workforce numbers

Thorp Key Achievements

- No significant safety issues.
- 117t of fuel sheared in 08/09, constrained by replacement/commissioning of replacement Medium Active Salt Free Evaporator in Chemical Plants, 97t so far in 09/10.
- The two overseas and two AGR fuel shearing campaigns now completed, with a further AGR fuel (75t) shearing campaign in progress , which is scheduled for reprocessing prior to HA Evaporator C Inspection Outage.
- New Medium Active Salt Free Evaporator operating successfully.
- Second Feed Clarification Cell Centrifuge returned to service.

In Conclusion

- The Thorp constraints are understood
- Resolution of these constraints is complex
- All will need some technical underpinning, financial investment and stakeholder buy-in
- SL supporting the NDA in developing future strategy