

## **REPORT TO THE WEST CUMBRIA SITES STAKEHOLDER GROUP FROM THE CALDER HALL SUB-COMMITTEE**

### **REPORT FOR WCSSG OCTOBER MEETING - 2007**

The 4<sup>th</sup> meeting of the West Cumbria Sites Stakeholder Group – Calder Hall Sub-Committee was held on Wednesday 15 August 2007 at the Ennerdale Country House Hotel, Cleator.

Mr Paul Brennan, Site Manager, Calder Hall and Mr Phil Campbell, Head of Assurance, Calder Hall made presentations covering the following topics:

#### **Safety Performance – Conventional, Nuclear and Environmental**

There has not been any injuries at Calder Hall for the last 15 months resulting in lost time. There had only been one OSHA recordable accident in the same period which was a twisted ankle. Also, Calder Hall has been successful in achieving its fourth RoSPA Gold Medal.

There had been no nuclear safety related events. The “modernisation” of the fuel route has been completed on Reactor 4 and the staff re-trained and re-authorised ready to commence defuelling.

Issue 3 of the Environmental Management Plan (EMP) will be issued in September.

#### **Work Undertaken since Last Meeting – February 2007 to July 2007**

- Reactor 4 Fuel Route – active commissioning
- Cooling Tower Test Blast completed
- Asbestos strip continues
- Demolition of Oil Storage Tanks, Stores, 2 Water Treatment Plants

#### **Business Performance 2006/7**

85% of scheduled work had been completed and there had been a 5% overspend on the work completed.

#### **Look Ahead**

- Final demolition of 4 cooling towers
- Completion of fuel route modifications on all reactors
- Completion of de-lagging
- Completion of waste characterisation for control rod store
- Route surveillance and Maintenance

## **Calder Hall Decommissioning Overview and Lifetime Plan 2008/9**

The key focus was that Calder Hall has been working towards Lifetime Plan 2007, which is a parallel programme of decommissioning and defuelling, taking Calder Hall to 2015 when a reactor Safestore status would have been achieved, followed by a period of care and maintenance ahead of site clearance. Due to several factors, specifically defuelling schedules for all reactors, the regulatory position on decommissioning prior to defuelling and the ongoing need to prioritise funds to higher hazard projects on the Sellafield Site, it has been decided that work on the decommissioning of Calder Hall will be substantially reduced by the end of this financial year. This situation will exist for a few years and enable other higher hazard projects, across the Sellafield Site, to be funded and delivered.

Therefore, Calder Hall now has a provisional start date of 2012 for defuelling to commence. The overall plan for the next few years is to keep the reactors as passive fuel stores. The fuel, whilst held in the reactors, is effectively in a Safestore and it is, in the interim, the safest place to store the fuel pending final defuelling and reprocessing.

In terms of the Calder Hall employees, Management are at present working on a plan to redeploy the workforce, in line with a skills match, to other opportunities across the Sellafield Site.

### **Update from NDA**

Mr Grey gave an update covering the following topics:

- Safety and Environment
- Programme
  - 2006/7 Schedule
  - 2007/8 Schedule
  - 2006/7 Budget
  - 2007/8 Budget
- Risk Management
- Regulator, Site and NDA
- Review of West Cumbria Sites Stakeholder Group – Calder Hall Sub-Committee

### **Update on Potential Listing of Reactor 1 and Turbine Hall 'A'**

The original application to list a Reactor and a Turbine Hall had also included a Cooling Tower. English Heritage has now agreed that it is not appropriate to retain a Cooling Tower within the application. The NDA Business Management Board (BMB) had made the decision to oppose the listing of a Reactor and a Turbine Hall and they were using the findings from the feasibility study to prepare their response to the application.

## **Cooling Tower Demolition**

The cooling tower test blast had taken place on Saturday 11 August 2007 and had been successful and the Licence Instrument to allow the final demolition of the four Cooling Towers is awaited from the NII.