

**Report to the West Cumbria Sites Stakeholder Group  
from the Community Engagement Co-ordinating sub-committee**

**Questions to be fielded at the next meeting on  
Thursday 6<sup>th</sup> October 2005**

**By**

**Cllr Elaine Woodburn  
Chairperson, Community Engagement Co-ordinating sub-committee**

The purpose of the CECSC, which meets monthly, is to enable the community to have a direct voice in the planning and execution of the NDA scope of work in West Cumbria.

Under its new terms of reference (see attached) the group has extended its membership to include a cross-section of community interests. New members include representatives of Cumbrians Opposed to a Radioactive Environment (CORE), and the local business community.

The main priority over the past few months has been to raise awareness of the WCSSG within the local community and to encourage people to take part in consultations. Committee members have attended a range of Local Neighbourhood Forums and other meetings, giving presentations and answering questions.

The group has also overseen the development of the new WCSSG website and “single issue” consultation process.

So far, the community has identified four issues that it wants to explore. These are:

- Future of the Sellafield site
- AGR fuel
- Interim storage of ILW not generated on the Sellafield site.
- Socio-economic impacts

The output from the consultation process will be a document summarising views expressed on the issue raised. The committee recognises that it is important to gain as broad a range of views as possible, and so the process will try to encourage interest from all sections of the community.

Firstly, for each issue there will be an awareness raising campaign, including information on the WCSSG website, production of “framework” documents explaining the issue, with articles in the local media.

Interested stakeholders will be invited to take part in a workshop where the community can discuss concerns, ask questions, and put forward opinions. All this information will be summarised and published, and can be used by the site operators and the NDA to inform their decision making, but it is essential that feedback from the NDA is given on the published information.

The CECSC will ensure that all information is in Plain English, and that the community's questions will be answered. Openness and transparency is key to the success of the process, so committee members are keen to ensure that the public has access to as much information as possible.

The first single issue is the Future of the Sellafield site with the process due to start very shortly.

The committee will continue to meet monthly to ensure the process is working. After the initial development phase, however, the meeting frequency will be reviewed and determined by its membership.

#### List of Acronyms

AGR	-	Advanced Gas Reactor
CECSC	-	Community Engagement Co-ordinating sub committee
CORE	-	Cumbrians opposed to a radioactive environment
ILW	-	Intermediate Level Waste
NDA	-	Nuclear Decommissioning Authority
WCSSG	-	West Cumbria Sites Stakeholder Group