

# **Sellafield Off-site Emergency Plan** **Report by Cumbria Emergency Planning Unit**

## **Training Day**

A training day was held at West Cumbria Emergency Control Centre on Wednesday 9<sup>th</sup> April 2008. Around 100 representatives from the various organisations who would be involved in the response to an off-site emergency at Sellafield attended. The day included a short exercise in the afternoon and the majority of feedback was very positive. A similar event will be held on the 14<sup>th</sup> October.

## **Off-Site Emergency Plan**

A new version of the off-site plan was issued in late April and became operational on the 1<sup>st</sup> May. Significant changes included:

- Change of name from British Nuclear Group to Sellafield Ltd.
- Removal of UKAEA.
- Inclusion of new siren and other warning arrangements.

In addition, there were a number of other routine updates required.

## **Sellafield Emergency Information Line**

This new service which plays a short pre-recorded announcement concerning the operational status of the site became operational on the 1<sup>st</sup> May.

## **'What to do in an emergency' Leaflets and Action Cards**

Around 3000 leaflets and 180 action cards were distributed to residents and occupiers during April. They replace the previous versions issued in October 2005 and include new information on Siren arrangements, Sellafield Emergency Information Line and Cumbria Alert Website

## **On-Site Exercise 'Goldfinch' 8<sup>th</sup> May**

The following off-site arrangements were tested during Exercise Goldfinch:

- Off-site alerting cascade.
- New siren arrangements.
- Sellafield emergency information line (47 calls were received during the exercise).
- Sellafield telephone warning system (approx 40 off-site premises were contacted during the exercise).
- Cumbria Alert website.

All arrangements appeared to work well and there were no significant off-site issues arising out of the exercise. The arrangements will be tested again on the 9<sup>th</sup> October and the 27<sup>th</sup> November 2008.

### **Oscar 9 Off-Site Exercise**

The next statutory off-site exercise will be held in 2009 and the provisional date is the 24<sup>th</sup> September. It is likely that this will be the UK's National Off-site Nuclear Exercise for 2009.

David Humphreys  
Senior Emergency Planning Officer  
Cumbria County Council  
01228 815700  
david.humphreys@cumbriaepu.gov.uk