

Presentation to WCSSG, Commercial Sub-Committee

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Key Strategic Role

- Brings significant revenue into NDA
- Maintains AGR Generation for UK
- Repatriates reprocessed material to overseas customers

Main Facilities

- Thermal oxide reprocessing (Thorp)
 - UK AGR reprocessing and storage
 - Overseas LWR/PWR/BWR reprocessing
- Mixed Oxide Fuel Manufacturing (SMP)
 - Manufacturing of MOX fuel for overseas customers with Thorp reprocessing contracts
- Oxide Fuel Storage Ponds and Flask Maintenance
 - Storage facilities for spent nuclear fuel
- Directorate directly employs 1600 people and a site functional support of a further 300

Key Issues for Thorp

- Downstream availability of High Active Liquor Management
 - evaporator capacity limited
 - licence instruments for 3 evaporators now in place
- Current production restricted, creating several pressure points that need short term management, but impact on potential long term strategy.
 - storage and reprocessing of UK AGR fuel
 - reprocessing of remaining overseas fuel
 - economics and impact on future workforce numbers

Thorp Key Achievements

- Thorp restart successful with AGR campaign completed and overseas fuel reprocessed
- Uranium export completed, total of 843te exported for recycle into new fuel
- Planned engineering outage now started which will include installation of a new MASFE
- On programme to meet production target FY 08/09

Key Issues for SMP

- Low production throughput against original plan
- Due to complexity of design and build of SMP. It is unlikely to meet planned throughput without further investment
 - this impacts on economic viability
 - material Management Strategy
 - customer Plans
 - future workforce numbers
- SMP Review

SMP Key Achievements

- Completed 1 million man hours worked without a Days Away Case (DAC) accident
- Two fuel assemblies built this year to date
- Systematic approach is changing culture, plant availability and performance improving
- Continued customer support for SMP and receiving their plutonium back as MOX fuel

In Conclusion

- The issues for the Directorate are well understood, but become complex in how they can be potentially resolved
- No single simple answer, all will need some level of financial investment and Stakeholder buy-in
- SL working with NDA on optimising best solutions and hopefully the new PBO will continue on with this work