



Minutes of the 60th meeting of the Emergency Planning Sub Committee held on Monday 14 September 2009

Present

Mr D Moore	Seascale Parish Council	Chairman
Mr D Humphreys	County Emergency Planning Unit	
Mr M Foy	NII	
Dr I Tait	NII	
Mr N McPhail	Sellafield Ltd	
Mr R Lanigan	Sellafield Ltd	
Mrs T Riley	Sellafield Ltd	
Ms N Lawton	Environment Agency	
Mr P Edge	NDA	
Mr P Tyson	Whitehaven & District Trades Council	
Mr P Connelly	Copeland Borough Council	
Mr M Davidson	Allerdale Council	
Mr K Freeman	CNC	
Mr P Dean	Cumbria Fire and Rescue	
Mrs S Williams	Sellafield Ltd	
Mrs J Kelly	Sellafield Ltd	Secretary

Apologies

Mr B Hough	NDA
Mr S Anderson	LLWR
Dr M Richardson	Windscale
Mr C Williams	Sellafield Ltd

Chairman's introduction

Mr Moore welcomed everyone to the meeting

Matters arising

Action: Mr Harris to report the outcome of CNC exercise, although there was no report given, a member of CNC attended the meeting.

Action: Mr Humphreys to visit schools and sensitive sites within 6 km to ensure they are clear on the Sellafield off site emergency arrangements. Action completed.

In reply to a question from Mr Humphreys regarding the A595, Mr Moore said Cumbria County Council are looking at the feasibility of a link road from Calderbridge to the Sellafield Calder Gate for use in an emergency. He said the



community register that allows certain people to be escorted through the site if the A595 is closed, is out of date but this would not affect blue light services.

Action: Mr Moore to ensure the community register is updated.

Mr Humphreys said that the system of escorting people through the site would not apply if there was an emergency involving a radiological release from the site.

Report on emergency exercises

Mr McPhail presented reports for Sellafield, Windscale and LLWR. He said an LLWR representative had intended to be present at the meeting but was not able to attend due to last minute operational reasons. In reference to the Sellafield report, Mr McPhail was asked for clarification of the problem with the automated telephone warning system. Mr Humphreys explained that there was no problem with the system, but Cumbria Police have requested that they are telephoned separately with information to give to agencies that they alert. Mr McPhail said this may delay the alert but would be tested in the forthcoming OSCAR 9 exercise. Mr McPhail said that problems with Command and Control was a recurring issue and Sellafield are looking at how to bring all personnel up to the required standard.

There were a number of adverse comments on the LLWR report specifically in relation a lack of detail on exercise findings.

Action: Secretary to request LLWR to expand their reports.

There were also a number of criticisms of the Windscale report and Mr Foy felt that there was too much detail of the counter terrorist exercise.

Mr Moore said that without the site representatives present at the meeting it was very difficult for the committee to get a true understanding of the issues that arose from an exercise.

Mr McPhail said that, when approval of the revision of the Sellafield Emergency Plan is given, there will be only 1 report for both the Sellafield and Windscale sites. Mr Moore reminded all agencies that reports should be issued on the website 14 days before the meeting.

Mr Foy presented the report for HSE/NII. He said Sellafield have been asked to develop an improvement plan which will include the concerns raised at exercise Jay. Mr Foy said that Sellafield will be required to run a joint counter terrorism and radiological exercise next year.

Action: Sellafield Ltd to present the improvement plan to the next meeting.



Mr Foy introduced Dr Ian Tait, who is replacing him as the Site Inspector for Sellafield and will represent NII at future meetings. Mr Moore thanked Mr Foy for his commitment to the committee and welcomed Dr Tait.

Exercise OSCAR 9

Mr Humphreys gave a presentation on the exercise which will be held on 24 September 2009. He said it will be the UK's national emergency exercise for the nuclear industry for this year. Sellafield will run a full site exercise to help drive the off site centres. Although the off site response will be subject to scrutiny by the NII, the on site exercise will be non statutory. As well as the participation of the West Cumbria Emergency Control Centre at Summergrove and the Media Briefing Centre at Whitehaven School, there will be an Evacuee Reception Centre exercise at St Benedict's School. Cumbria Fire and Rescue Service also intend to exercise mass decontamination arrangements, adjacent to the Sellafield Centre. In reply to a question from Mr Connelly, Mr Humphreys said that Copeland Borough Council have not yet appointed a replacement for Alan Southward.

Replacement of the site emergency siren

Mr McPhail said the new siren is expected to be operational by the end of the financial year. The new system will enable different tones to be sounded and it is intended to retain the current tone to warn of a Sellafield Emergency, with a different one for Site Incident. Mr Humphreys suggested that the different tones be available on the Local Resilience website and Ms Lawton that they are available on the telephone warning. Both suggestions will be investigated as to their practicability. Mr Humphreys said that the siren is designed to be audible up to 2 km from the centre of the site.

Mr Humphreys said that the changes to the site emergency siren will require the re-issue of the householders leaflet.

New Build

Mr Moore said that the community will decide on the site nomination for a new reactor. This will be a difficult task as West Cumbria is unique in the country in having 3 possible sites. Mr Humphreys said that if the chosen site is adjacent to an existing nuclear licensed site the emergency planning issues will not be difficult, but if a green field site is selected, this will produce many more issues to be resolved. Ms Lawton suggested that a special meeting of the committee be organised to consider this matter and that Copeland Borough Council need to be represented at the meeting. Mr Moore re-iterated that a replacement for Copeland Borough Councils Emergency Planning Officer is essential and undertook to write to the Chief Executive about this.



Action: Ms Williams to confirm the timescales for the consultation and liaise with the Chairman on the timing and agenda for a special meeting.

Action: Mr Moore to write to the Chief Executive of Copeland Borough Council regarding the lack of a replacement for the late Alan Southward.

Security

Mr Moore said that concerns have been raised regarding the lack of warning to the local community of exercises involving armed officers and also the audibility of gunshots off site. He understands the necessity for confidentiality but would like reports on how successful these exercises are and any learning from them. Mr Freeman said that there is a controlled exercise regime which is regulated by Office of Civil Nuclear Security and that Sellafield site management are informed that exercises are taking place. He said he will take back the committee's concerns to the Superintendent and Chief Inspector.

Action: Mr Freeman to take back to CNC Superintendent and Chief Inspector the concerns of the committee with respect to their security exercises.

Action: Mr Foy to inform OCNS of the committee's requirements.

Review of the Terms of Reference of the Emergency Planning Sub Committee

Ms Williams explained that she is attending all WCSSG sub committees meetings to ensure they all have a common expectation, the same standard of secretarial support and that members needs are satisfied. She said committees need to ensure that key issues are being addressed and actions are resolved. The remit for the EPSC was established some time ago and needs to ensure it has sufficient power to carry out its role as the watchdog for the local community. Mr Davidson expressed concern that off site companies are not members of the committee and its remit does not include transport of material between Sellafield and Workington docks. Mr Moore said the committee should include Studsvik, transport and operational ports. Mr Foy said the role of the committee is to provide reassurance to the community and therefore these areas should be covered.

Action: Secretary To invite representatives of Studsvik, Workington Dock and Ramsden Dock Liaison Committee to join the committee.

Mr Moore said that new Terms of Reference (ToR) for the EPSC will be drafted and issued for comment. Mr Foy suggested that the new ToR have an overarching objective followed by points of interest. Mr Davidson asked that these include that attendees have sufficient rank to accept actions and concerns were expressed at the lack of attendance of some agencies.



Action: Mr Moore/secretary to contact relevant agencies re their attendance.

Any other business

As previously discussed, Studsvik will be asked to join the committee.

It was agreed that, in future members that are corresponded with via a work address will have all correspondence issued via e mail but hard copy will continue to be sent to home addresses.

Date of next meeting

Monday 8 March 2010 at 1300 hours at Ennerdale Country House Hotel, Cleator

