



RATIFIED

**Minutes of the 61st meeting of the Emergency Planning Sub
Committee held on Monday 8 March 2010**

Present

Mr D Moore	Seascale Parish Council	Chairman
Mr D Humphreys	County Emergency Planning Unit	
Dr I Tait	NII	
Mr N McPhail	Sellafield Ltd	
Mrs T Riley	Sellafield Ltd	
Ms N Lawton	Environment Agency	
Mr P Edge	NDA	
Mr P Tyson	Whitehaven & District Trades Council	
Mr M Davidson	Allerdale Council	
Dr M R Richardson	Windscale	
Ms J O'Reilly	Copeland Borough Council	
Mr D J Harris	CNC	
Mr P Storey	CNC	
Mr M McMullen	STUDSVIK	
Mrs J Kelly	Sellafield Ltd	Secretary

Apologies

Mr C V Williams	Sellafield Ltd
Mr R Lanigan	Sellafield Ltd
Mr B Hough	NDA
Mr P Connelly	Copeland Borough Council
Mr S Anderson	LLWR
Mr R Mackay	Cumbria Constabulary
Mr P Dean	Cumbria Fire and Rescue
Mr L McAleavey	Port of Workington

Observer

Mr N Ellis	COI
------------	-----

Chairman's introduction

Mr Moore welcomed Mr Mike McMullen representing STUDSVIK, a new member of the committee and noted that Mr Liam McAleavey of Port of Workington has also joined the Committee but was unable to attend today.



West Cumbria Sites Stakeholder Group

Matters arising

Action: Mr Moore to ensure the community register is updated. Action ongoing.
Action: Secretary to request LLWR to expand their reports. Action ongoing.
Action: Sellafield Ltd to present the improvement plan to the next meeting. Mr McPhail will present the plan to the meeting. Action completed.

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 completed.
Action: Mr Moore to write to the Chief Executive of Copeland Borough Council regarding the lack of a replacement for the late Alan Southward. Action completed.
Action: Mr Freeman to take back to CNC Superintendent and Chief Inspector the concerns of the committee with respect to their security exercises. Action completed.
Action: Mr Foy to inform OCNS of the committee's requirements. Action ongoing.
Action: Secretary to invite representatives of Studsvik, Workington Dock and Ramsden Dock Liaison Committee to join the committee. Action completed
Action: Mr Moore/secretary to contact relevant agencies re their attendance. Action ongoing.

Report on Emergency exercises

Mr McPhail gave the report for Sellafield and Windscale. On a question from Mr Moore regarding the comment on casualty handling, Mr McPhail said that a 'real' casualty was sent to the West Cumberland Hospital and a simulated casualty was sent to the Cumberland Infirmary. The response at Carlisle was very heartening and went well, at Whitehaven it went quite well but he noted that Whitehaven had found it difficult to balance the exercise play with their normal day duties.

Mr McPhail then gave the report for LLWR. Dr Richardson asked if LLWR had their own RADS SAFE response and Mr McPhail said they would respond as consignors.

Dr Tait gave the report for NII, he said that as part of NII's work to Approve the proposed joint Sellafield & Windscale Emergency Plan, NII would observe an emergency exercise on 17 March involving an event at Windscale. NII would concentrate on the interactions between Sellafield and Windscale and if these were satisfactory, changes to the Emergency Handbook which underpins the Plan, would be discussed with the Sellafield and Windscale Emergency Planners with the aim of Approving the Plan later in the year.

Mr Humphreys said that the telephone warning system had not worked well during exercise OSCAR 9 and exercise Kingfisher. Following work done by the company that supplied the system, a private test was run in December and worked well. During an internal exercise in February 2010, the system was set off in error and a small number of members of the public were telephoned and informed that an exercise was taking place. Mr Moore commented that if these problems persisted, the public would lose confidence in the system. Mr Humphreys informed the meeting that the next public test of the system would take place on Thursday 11th March. Mr Humphreys subsequently informed the secretary that the warning system test on the 11th March had worked extremely well with lots of positive comments received from members of



West Cumbria Sites Stakeholder Group

the public. Mr McPhail commented that the emergency messageline system was updated correctly in each instance. Dr Tait explained that the Severe Accident Management Strategies (SAMS) were high level guidance in the event of extreme accidents.

Mr McMullen reported that STUDSVIK had held a level 1 exercise in June 2009 and is currently in discussion with their regulators for an exercise in May/June this year. He said there are no off site consequences of an event on the site.

Exercise OSCAR 9 (off site aspects)

Mr Humphreys presented the summary report on exercise OSCAR 9, the UK national nuclear emergency exercise for 2009, which had at least 1000 participants around the country. He said that it was a well run exercise that had been well received. He commented that in the response to the floods 2 months after the exercise, the experience of the multi agency work at OSCAR 9 had been very useful. Mr Moore asked why faxes were still used for emergency notifications, Mr Humphreys replied that written confirmation was important and a fax will appear rather than someone having to continually monitor a screen. Mr McPhail said that a new software system, the National Resilience Extranet (NRE), was being developed by the Government for emergency management and that the intention was to examine it to determine if it could replace current systems. Ms Lawton commented that the lack of information to agencies had been problematic, causing them to work out countermeasures individually. Mr Humphreys said the NRE will provide a much improved system for the transmission of information. Mr Davidson commented that he had been an observer at the Reception Centre exercise and felt that support for evacuees could have been better. Mr Humphreys said that such exercises are difficult to organise, but all the Reception Centres had operated well during the response to the November floods. Mr Moore asked about the situation regarding buses going in to areas that are sheltering, to evacuate schools and care homes. Mr Humphreys said this is a difficult issue, as there is no guarantee that bus drivers will enter a shelter/ evacuation area. If possible parents collecting their children from schools may be the best solution. He said there has now been a decision to evacuate schools and sensitive sites at an earlier stage of an emergency, if possible before the need to shelter/evacuate arose. In reply to Mr Davidson's comment on the conditions in the Emergency Control Centre, Mrs Kelly said the air conditioning has been checked and engineers would be present at the next training day to check temperature and CO2 levels.

Mr Edge said the NDA now have a compensation protocol that would pay out of pocket expenses for short term small demands, for example hotel costs for people evacuated from their homes. Mr Davidson's overall opinion of the exercise was that the arrangements did work and any criticisms were peripheral.

Update from the special meeting held on 18 January 2010

Mr Moore said that the meeting had raised concerns about the inadequacy of the local infrastructure which were put forward to the IPC with other responses. There had been a good response for new build at Sellafield, but there were emergency planning issues for Kirksanton and Braystones. He has written a letter expressing the views of



West Cumbria Sites Stakeholder Group

the committee to the DECC consultation. He said he was pleased with the work that had been done at the meeting.

Update on the replacement of the site emergency siren

Mr McPhail said that the new sirens are in place on the site. Silent testing has been completed and they will be tested live on either 24 or 25 March 2010 depending on the weather. The existing siren sound will be retained to warn of a Sellafield Emergency with a new siren for Site Incident. The test will take place between 0900 hrs and 1200 hrs and is expected to take up to 2 hrs to complete. It will consist of the existing siren sound for 4 minutes, the new siren for 4 minutes then each individual siren unit for 1 minute. A large scale communications plan has been agreed which will include adverts in local newspapers. If the test of the system is successful the new siren will replace the current arrangements and will be used as part of the site exercise on 27 May 2010. Prior to this, an extensive communications regime will be put into operation and the householders leaflet will be re-issued. Mr Humphreys said a questionnaire will be sent out to householders within a 2 km radius of the site and should a real emergency occur during the testing, the original siren will be sounded for 10 minutes and the Sellafield Emergency Information Line will be updated.

Update on the changes to the householders leaflet

Mr Humphreys said the only change to the leaflet since it was presented at the special meeting was that it has been decided not to send out a CD of the siren sounds, but members of the public will be able to ring a free-phone number to hear a recording. This number will be included in the leaflet.

Public Information - signs on footpaths

Mr Humphreys said the new site siren Working Group had raised the issue of how people walking in the area of the site when the siren sounds can get information on what action they should take. He has looked at arrangements at a number of other nuclear sites and they have signs on public footpaths which incorporate environmental and tourist information as well as information on what to do if the sirens are sounded. Mr Moore said there would have to be consultation with Parish Councils on how to present the information, where the signs should be placed and who is responsible for putting up the signs.

Action Ms O'Reilly to investigate who is responsible for putting up the signs.

Mr McPhail said the Cabinet Office are investigating the use of cell broadcasting in an emergency, this would enable messages to be sent to all mobile phones within a defined area.

CNC - update on their commitment to the local area

Mr Storey explained the main reason behind moving the Constabulary Training School to CNC HQ was the pressure on the firearms range at Sellafield. It does not have the capability to cope with refresher training of experienced officers and the



West Cumbria Sites Stakeholder Group

initial training of probationary officers. Mr Moore said that the Training School was a bonus to the local area and economy and the community is very concerned about the impact of the move. He felt that there should have been consultation with local councils and this Committee before the decision was made. Mr Storey said that no jobs will be lost from the move of the Training School, all CNC staff will be moved to Sellafield. Mr Ellis said that the move was the most cost effective option for the taxpayer and that CNC are committed to the local area.

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

Mr Edge questioned why the Committee was looking at sites that have no off site consequences. Mr Moore said that it was to enable the public to ask questions and look at sites plans to give them reassurance. Dr Tait, who is an Observer on the Group, pointed out that the new terms of reference may not be compatible with the ToR for the West Cumbria Sites Stakeholder Group. Mr Moore commented that if the proposed changes are adopted, he would ask for the ToR of the main committee to be strengthened. Ms Lawton said the ToR is too narrow and should include all nuclear sites within the area, for example the potential site at Lillyhall landfill. She also questioned how the draft ToR aligns with the NII. Mr Moore said that he will re-draft the ToR with Ms Williams and circulate to members for comment.

Action Mr Moore and Ms Williams to re-draft the Terms of Reference and circulate to members for comment before the next meeting.

Any other business

There was no other business raised.

Date of next meeting

Monday 13 September 2010 at 1300 hours at Cleator Moor Civic Hall and Masonic Centre.