

Presentation to WCSSG, Commercial Sub Committee

*Mike Johnson, Executive Director Production
Operations*

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Key strategic role

- Supports delivery of two key hazard reduction activities
 - HA Liquor Treatment and Product Storage
 - Magnox Operating Programme (MOP)
- Supports AGR generation and NDA revenue generation

Main Facilities / Operations

- Magnox Reprocessing
 - Magnox Operating Programme
 - Receipt and Storage of AGR fuel
 - Management of Pu and U Products
- High Level Waste Plants
 - Storage of HAL and Vitrification
- Vitrified Residue Returns (VRR)
 - Management of the overseas return of HA Waste
- Effluent and Encapsulation
 - Management of ILW and Aqueous Waste
- Waste Plants
 - Management of PCM and Low Level Waste

Key issues (1)

Magnox

- Recovery of decanning programme following late restart from planned outage and achievement of 540 tonnes this financial year
- Recovery of AGR Programme following unplanned outage in summer 2008 and less than scheduled deliveries by British Energy
- Then need for continued improvement in plant reliability and condition

HLWP

- Development of long term Evaporator and HAST capacity as defined within the 2008 biennial review. Defines approach to asset mission, asset life and HAL strategic options.
- Response to the HALES PMS event - still awaiting formal response from the Regulator on actions required. Sellafield Ltd actions delivered or being delivered on programme.
- Optimisation and alignment of key risk mitigation works in WVP. Key outages delivered in Line 1 and concluding in Line 2. Line 3 in outage due to shield door modification requirements.
- REF commissioning Phase 1 commissioning concluded, Phase 2 commissioning has started.

Key issues (2)

Vitrified Residue Return (VRR)

- The management of the return of solid HA waste to overseas customers
- The infrastructure to enable a first return is being commissioned and operations for first return are underway
- The first return timescales are being discussed in detail with key stakeholders including customers

Effluent and Encapsulation

- Long term storage of ILW drums
- Deal with EA concerns over liquid effluent solids abatement

Waste

- Implementation of the recently approved LLW strategy
- Delivery of 1215 compacted and grouted PCM drums this financial year

Key achievements (1)

Magnox

- The reprocessing outage has been completed. Reprocessing plants are currently going through the restart process
- British Energy flask transfers have been met in the period
- AGR dismantler has been returned to service and a good throughput ramp up has been experienced
- Significant safety achievement realised in the Uranium Finishing plant when 12 months was reached without a recordable personal contamination event

HLWP

- No LTA in over 18 months
- HAL stocks remain below 1000m³. All three Evaporators available to support Vitrification and Reprocessing
- At the end of Period 9, 176 containers had been produced against a planned forecast of 228 years to date. Container rates are being constrained by the extended outage of Line 3.
- Commissioning of REF is progressing in accordance with the required schedule

Key achievements (2)

Vitrified Residue Returns (VRR)

- Governance arrangements across SL / INS have been in place for a number of years and the Programme of work is progressing well
- The Residue Export Facility and Flask Marshalling Project are complete and handed over to operations for active commissioning
- The new rail wagon and Flask for first return has been delivered, commissioned and licensed
- The ship (Pacific Sandpiper) is available
- In summary the infrastructure is available and preparations are underway for the first return
- The outstanding work involves active commissioning and operations along with detail discussions with key stakeholders on the timing of the return

Key achievements (3)

Effluent and Encapsulation

- No LTA in MBGWS for 12 years
- PS1 Floc tank now empty. Almost 1000m³ of hazardous liquid effluent has now been encapsulated and is in safe storage
- Stores drum receipt rates are improving off the back of an engineering and operational improvement programme
- 1000m³ Legacy Salt Evaporator Concentrate is being transferred to safe storage, scheduled completion by end of Feb 09

Waste

- Developed a full site LLW strategy using input from the stakeholder consultation sessions held during 2007/8
- Ramp up of operations in WTC after prolonged outage last year to achieve compaction of almost 1000 drums so far this year
- On site metals recycling facility processed and released 500 tonnes so far this year and planning a further 150 tonnes
- No lost time accidents in over two years

In conclusion

- Nuclear and conventional safety performance much improved
- 40% reduction in LTA's compared with 2007/08
- >12 months since the last EA classified environmental event
- Majority of operational targets are either on or ahead of schedule
- The issues facing the Directorate are understood and are being dealt with