

Ratified

Sellafield Local Liaison Committee
Emergency Planning Sub Committee

Minutes of the 50th meeting held on Thursday 4th November 2004 at Sellapark

Present

Mr D Cook – Drigg Parish Council
Cllr D Moore – Seascale Parish Council
Mr A Southward – Copeland Borough Council
DO Hancock – Cumbria Fire Service
Mr D Humphreys – County Emergency Planning Unit
Mr P Watson – NII
Ms S Hanlon – Whitehaven and District Trade Council
Mr M Slater – BNFL
Mr N McPhail – BNFL
Mr P Lucas – BNFL
Mrs K Wilson – BNFL

Apologies

Dr M Richardson – UKAEA
Cllr P Connelly – Copeland Borough Council
Cllr McCarron Holmes – Allerdale Council
Mr A Mayall – Environment Agency
Mr J Elliott – Cumbria Fire Service
Miss H Little – NFU
Dr N Calvert – Health Authority

Chairman's Introduction

Mr Cook welcomed everybody to the meeting.

Matters Arising

Mr Cook commented that the re-election of the Chairman and Vice Chairman was due at this meeting but in the light of all the reorganisation within BNFL regarding the NDA it was suggested that the Chairman and Vice Chairman remain the same until after the 1 April 2005 when the NDA would have taken on their role. The committee agreed that Mr Cook (Chairman) and Mr Moore (Vice Chairman) would remain in post. Mr Moore also commented that he had not received any volunteers to take on the role of vice chairman as yet but would endeavour to find some by April 2005.

Minutes from the last Meeting

All members present approved the minutes of the last meeting

Actions from the last meeting

Exercises with the Health Service Mr McPhail said that some discussions have taken place with West Cumberland Hospital and that he is planning to organise some exercises, which will involve the Health service.

Cumbria Fire Service Health Physics Monitors Mr McPhail commented that he had checked the Sellafield Fire Brigade protocol for requesting Health Physic Monitors. The Fire brigade would call Cumbria Fire Service and then request the monitors to attend. Mr Hancock commented that Mr Cartmell and Cumbria Fire Service had carried out a number of training sessions and that he felt that there is now a better response time than previously. Mr Moore said that when CFS had recently attended the site to be on standby, it had taken up to 45 minutes for the monitors to arrive. Mr Lucas replied that if the monitors had been called to attend an emergency rather than to just standby they would be there quicker. Mr Hancock said that he was confident that the operational imperative would ensure that in a real event the speed of response would be acceptable. Mr McPhail and Mr Hancock agreed to investigate this ongoing problem.

Action Mr McPhail and Mr Hancock.

Report on Emergency Exercises

Mr Lucas gave a report on all Site exercises that have taken place since the last meeting, he also informed the committee of all future exercises up to April 2005. Mr Watson commented on the Level 1 demonstration exercise in April, which required a retest. He said that BNFL had actually asked to re-demonstrate before the NII requested it, he thought that this was a very significant response from BNFL. Mr Southward asked what had been the main problem with roll call, Mr Lucas explained that the main problem had been visitors and people not completing all their relevant information so that they were difficult to trace. Mr Watson pointed out that the incident

buildings were quickly all accounted for. Mr Slater commented that the new electronic pass system, which is soon to be installed, would help this situation.

Mr Watson said that BNFL had carried out four demonstration exercises this year and a lot of extra work had resulted, which had been time consuming for all concerned. Mr Lucas pointed out that the actual date for the four site wide exercises next year will not be issued only the week commencing date would be issued. He commented that in past exercises the NII had said that there had been too much pre-positioning around site and this was preventing the site from fully demonstrating its emergency arrangements and that this new arrangement should now combat this problem. Mr Watson commented that for the Level 1 exercise on the 10th November the NII would be playing as a real interface with BNFL as well as having a team of observers present.

Opening of the Emergency Planning Sub Committee to the General Public

Mr Moore said that some meetings from the Local Liaison committee should now be held in public, as the public and press have an interest in certain issues although some issues could not be discussed. The NDA has said that all meetings should be open and transparent and therefore he would recommend that the EPSC be open to the public. Ms Hanlon commented that some issues discussed are difficult to talk about in a public arena. Mr Moore agreed that some issues would have to be excluded from the public/press. Mr McPhail commented that the LLC already receive a report from this committee, which only gives them the broader picture. Mr Humphreys suggested that the normal meeting take place and then hold the public meeting straight afterwards, he also commented that security and Cumbria Constabulary may have issues regarding the opening up of this meeting. Mr Watson suggested that security advice be sought from OCNS as an independent body. **Action Mr Slater and Mr McPhail.**

It was suggested that Mr Cook and Mr Moore look at the format for this new meeting for the next time the committee meets. **Action Mr Cook and Mr Moore.**

Any Other Business

Mr McPhail asked if the NDA should become a member of the EPSC. Mr Moore replied that he agreed but it wasn't clear as yet what their role would be, but that he would be asking them for some answers at the end of November. Mr Cook asked that the NDA present their roles with regard to emergency arrangements he suggested that the EPSC invite the NDA to the next meeting to give a presentation on their role. **Action Mr McPhail to contact Mr R Mrowicki (NDA).**

Mr McPhail commented that the civil constabulary are going to start using a new radio system called AIRWAVE and that the UKAEAC and Sellafield site were going to adopt the same system.

Mr McPhail said that he had received a query, from a member of the health service with regard to access through site in the event of an emergency off site. Mr Moore commented that a list of Doctors, Nurses and teachers had been put together sometime ago, the people on this list would be given escorted access through site if required. Mr McPhail commented that he didn't think that this list had been updated recently and asked if this could be chased up with the LLC secretary. **Action Mr Moore.**

Mr McPhail asked if the committee had any objections to a member from the Public Highways Agency becoming a member of the EPSC, the committee welcomed the idea and asked Mr McPhail to invite them to the next meeting. **Action Mr McPhail.**

Date of Next Meeting:

It was agreed by all members present that the next meeting would take place on Thursday 28 April 2005