

STRATEGIC NUCLEAR AND ENERGY BOARD

MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 17 JULY 2014 AT 10:00AM

Present: Councillors Elaine Woodburn (Chairman); Peter Connolly; Allan Holliday and David Moore.

Apologies for absence were received from: Councillors Yvonne Clarkson, Jon Downie and Lena Hogg.

Officers: John Groves, Strategic Nuclear and Planning Manager; Clive Willoughby, Member Services Technical Support Officer; Denice Gallen, Nuclear and Energy Officer; Charlotte Brown, Development Control Officer and Christie Burns, Planning Enforcement Officer.

SNEB 07/14 Minutes

The Minutes of the meeting held on 5 June 2014 were signed by the Chairman as a correct record.

SNEB 08/14 DECC response to NORM letter consultation

Members were advised that the Council responded to the consultation on the Management of Naturally Occurring Radioactive Materials (NORM) in a letter to the Secretary of State for Energy and Climate Change dated 25 April 2014.

A reply from the Secretary of State for Energy and Climate Change dated 21 June 2014 was then discussed.

RESOLVED - That the report be noted.

SNEB 09/14 Key Projects Update

Members were updated on the following key projects relating to the Council's nuclear and energy activities:

Nuclear New Build

It was noted that Toshiba and GDF SUEZ had completed a deal on 30 June 2014 for Toshiba to buy a 60% share in the NuGen Ltd company who are responsible for developing the nuclear new build plan at the Moorside site to the north of Sellafield.

Members were advised that Council will be working with NuGen to develop their planning application (Development Consent Order). NuGen hope to have permission granted by 2018 with the first reactor on line in 2024.

Members were also advised that a Planning Performance Agreement (PPA) had been signed with NuGen to ensure all costs of managing the Development Consent Order can be recovered by the Council.

As requested by Members at a previous meeting, NuGen have been invited to make a presentation to all Members on the proposed project.

North West Coast Connections (NWCC) Project

Following a pause in the process last year, National Grid were keen to progress to the next stage of consultation which would commence on 4 September 2014.

The consultation would be available on-line and the National Grid would also be leafleting houses and businesses in close proximity to the preferred route.

The Board were advised that the National Grid would be coming to the Copeland Centre on 16 September 2014 to provide all Members with a briefing on the proposal.

During discussion of this item, Members asked if a presentation from National Grid could be arranged prior to the consultation going public on 4 September 2014.

Geological Disposal Facility (GDF)

Members were advised that the Department for Energy and Climate Change was still reviewing the revised GDF process and a further announcement was expected from them prior to Government's summer recess.

Nuclear Legacy Advisory Forum (NuLeAF)

It was noted that the next meeting of NuLeAF's Steering Group was to be on 24 July in Preston. And the topics to be discussed include:

- Update on the MRWS process
- NuLeAF and Local Enterprise Partnerships
- Update on NDA strategy and operations
- NuLeAF meetings – maintaining and encouraging participation

RESOLVED - That

- a) the updates be noted, and
- b) National Grid be asked if a presentation could be arranged prior to the consultation going public on 4 September 2014.

SNEB 10/14 Low Level Waste Repository

Members were made aware of the ongoing deliberations by the County Council over a current planning application relating to further development at the Low Level Waste Repository at Drigg. The council had been advised that determination of the application had been deferred until August 2014.

SNEB 11/14 Solar Farms

Members were advised that a number of solar farm planning applications were expected in the near future and at present Council had no policy. There was also no national policy or guidance on any benefits that could be obtained from such an application. It was stated that a draft policy would be prepared and brought to the next meeting of the Strategic Nuclear and Energy Board.

SNEB 12/14 Socio Economic Plan

Members were advised that the draft Sellafield Socio Economic Plan was now in the public arena, but without Copeland Borough Council's endorsement. It included no base line, No targets and therefore there was no ability to monitor it.

It was requested that the document be issued to all Members of the Council and they be asked to provide any response by Friday 25 July.

The meeting closed at 11:00am

Chairman

Date