

STRATEGIC NUCLEAR AND ENERGY BOARD

MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 14 FEBRUARY 2013

Present: Councillors Allan Holliday (Vice Chair in the Chair); Yvonne Clarkson; Peter Connolly; David Moore and Dave Smith.

Apologies for absence were received from: Councillors Elaine Woodburn and Jon Downie.

Howard Rooms and Todd Wright, Sellafield Ltd attended the meeting for Agenda Item 6 Sellafield Performance Plan Presentation

Officers: John Groves, Head of Nuclear, Energy and Planning; Steve Smith; Nuclear projects Manager; Denice Gallen, Nuclear and Energy Officer and Denise James, Member Services Officer.

SNEB 25/12 Minutes

The Minutes of the meeting held on 17 January 2013 were signed by the Chairman as a correct record.

SNEB 26/12 Sellafield Performance Plan Presentation

Todd Wright of Sellafield Ltd. gave a presentation on the Sellafield Site Performance Plan 2013/13 mid-year review which was then open to questions from Members and officers.

RESOLVED - That the presentation be received and noted.

SNEB 27/12 House of Commons Committee of Public Accounts – Nuclear Committee Report Update

Consideration was given to a report following the publication of a report from the Public Accounts Committee (PAC) the report included the findings of evidence gathering session held at Energus held in November 2012.

During consideration of this item Members asked several questions which it was felt would be better answered by the NDA. It was noted that the NDA were in the process of preparing a report in response and Members asked that once this had been completed the NDA be asked to a meeting to discuss the report and answer Members questions.

RESOLVED – That the report be noted; and

b) the NDA be asked to a future meeting to answer Members questions once the report in response is completed

SNEB 28/12 Nuclear and Energy Projects Update

The Head of Nuclear, Energy and Planning updated Members on the following key projects relating to the Council's nuclear activities:

Nuclear New Build

- It was noted that initial site investigation work, as part of the proposal by NuGeneration Ltd to develop a new nuclear power generating facility on the site just north of the existing Sellafield site, is progressing according to plan.
- A revised programme for the development is awaited.

North West Coast Connections Project

- The North West Coast Connections project led by National Grid was looking at options to enhance the power transmission connections from the Cumbrian west coast to take new power generated by nuclear new build proposals and other renewable proposals to the national electricity market.
- National Grid were working with local authority partners to develop an agreed approach to community consultation for the next phase, which was due to commence in May 2013.
- The outcome of the stakeholder consultation seeking comments on the six strategic route options for new grid connections across Cumbria and parts of Lancashire had been announced.

Managing Radioactive Waste Safely (MRWS)

- It was noted that a Special Executive meeting on 30th January the Executive took the decision to proceed to the next stage (Stage 4) of the MRWS process. However at a similar meeting of the County Councils Cabinet held on the same day the County Council Cabinet decided not to progress to stage 4. Based on the principles of '3 green lights' which requires a positive decision at the three levels of government – district, county and central government – the current MRWS process in West Cumbria has therefore finished. However recognising the fact that 70% of the waste is stored in interim facilities at Sellafield and a solution to the long term disposal of that waste is still urgently required the Leader of the Council has written to Ed Davey the Secretary of State for Energy and

Climate Change requesting a meeting to discuss the options for a way forward

Walney Extension Offshore Wind Farms

- The Shore Line Visual Impact Assessment (SLVIA) was issued on the 9th January 2013.
- WYG were commissioned to review the SLVIA they have raised a number of issues within the report, namely that the Cumulative Impact assessment has not been carried out adequately and that unless an assessment of all scenarios is carried out, a full understanding of the potential cumulative assessment cannot be made.
- It has also been highlighted that the SLVIA omits to adequately address the impact of the proposed Wind farm on residents. These comments have been fed back through the process and we are awaiting a response from DONG Energy.
- DONG Energy has also undertaken a night assessment of the proposed development which will be due out for consultation in the near future.
- The PPA is currently being passed around the PPA Authorities to sign.

During consideration of this item it was suggested that the Council should lobby jointly with Lancashire on a 50/50 basis for community benefits

RESOLVED - That

- a) the updates be noted, and
- b) it be agreed that joint lobbying be undertaken with Lancashire Council for Community Benefit.

SNEB 29/12 Nuclear Energy and Policy Update

It was noted that the Members workshop on Nuclear and Energy Policies due to be held on the 7th February had been postponed would be held at a later date.

SNEB 30/12 Future Meetings Programme to Include in Consideration

RESOLVED – That

- Fracking - update and implications for Copeland
- NNLAG report on activities
- NIA report on activities

- Tidal/wave energy position
- Socio-eco matters inc health of nuclear supply chain assessment by NDA
- NDA plans and strategy
- NDA be asked to a future meeting and answer questions on their response to the House of Commons Committee of Public Accounts – Nuclear Committee Report Update

be the subject of future meetings and included in the work programme.

The meeting closed at 3.50pm

Chairman.....

Date.....