

Nuclear New Build – Steering Group Update

CHAIRMAN:	Councillor Allan Holliday
PORTFOLIO HOLDER	Councillor Elaine Woodburn
LEAD OFFICER:	David Davies
REPORT AUTHOR:	David Davies

Recommendations

- It is recommended officers continue to work with partners towards discharging the Council's nuclear new build policy and regularly report back developments to the Nuclear Working Group.
- It is recommended Members feedback comments on the draft Terms of Reference during the next meeting of the 14th August 2008.

Introduction

The 'Nuclear New Build Steering Group' is a strategic group set up by the Council and Westlakes Renaissance to assess the business case for new build of the Sellafield site area for reactor development. The group will project manage (project EC9) the agreed implementation action plan.

The group consists of key local stakeholders and advisors from the NDA, Sellafield Ltd and independent technical advice from Amec. Where appropriate other consultants will be procured for independent technical advice on an ad hoc basis.

Terms of Reference

Project EC9 "Building the Case for Nuclear New Build at Sellafield" has been adopted by the West Cumbria Leaders' Group as a Beacon project within the Energy Coast Programme and the Leaders have endorsed the setting up of this Group to take forward the actions outlined in the attached Terms of Reference (points 6 to 15).

Attached are the draft terms of reference proposed for the group and it is requested that Members read these and feedback any comments during the NWG group meeting in order to influence the next New Build Steering Group meeting in August 08

Attachments

Appendix 1 – 'Terms of Reference – Nuclear New Build Steering Group' (draft for comment).

Nuclear Working Group – 140808 Item 6 Appendix 1

Nuclear New Build Steering Group

Terms of Reference

Members

David Davies	Copeland Borough Council
David Hayes	Government Relations Director, WLR
John Grainger	MD, Invest in Cumbria
Kevin Warren	NWDA
Luke Diccio	Cumbria Vision
Peter Kane	GMB, Sellafield Unions
Rosie Mathisen (Chair)	West Lakes Renaissance
Simon Sjenitzer	Cumbria Vision
Stewart Kemp	Cumbria County Council
Richard Evans	Allerdale Borough Council

Also to be approached - LDNPA

Advisors

Adrian Simper	NDA	The NDA is represented as owner of the site, as client to the SLC, the owner of nuclear materials and with a valid interest in promoting socio-economic benefit to West Cumbria, through its obligations under the Energy Act. As such the NDA representative is available to make appropriate input and to give advice to the Group within the agreed framework of government policy and NDA vires.
Barry Watkinson Sian Beaty	Sellafield Sites Ltd	Sellafield Sites are represented as Managers and Operators of the site, with significant knowledge of the site and also with a valid interest in promoting socio-economic benefit to West Cumbria. As such the Sellafield representative is available to make appropriate input and to give advice to the Group.
Mark Dutton	For Amec	For period of consultancy up to end August 2008
Richard Riley	Amec	For period of consultancy up to end August 2008

Purpose of Group

To assess the business case for Nuclear New Build at Sellafield and to develop and implement an Influencing and Action Plan to increase the attractiveness of Sellafield as a site for reactor development and a wider Energy Park.

Project EC9, "Building the Case for Nuclear New Build at Sellafield" has been adopted by the West Cumbria Leaders' Group as a Beacon project within the Energy Coast Programme and the Leaders have endorsed the setting up of this Group to take forward the actions outlined below.

(Agree wording with LAs on agreement and support on securing new build at Sellafield.)

Responsibilities

1. To work with public sector partners to increase the attractiveness of the Sellafield undesignated site area for reactor development and a wider Energy Park.
2. To determine the best use of resources in order to achieve this.
3. To engage with DBERR, NDA and Sellafield Sites Ltd, to better understand and influence nuclear policy framework as it develops.
4. To engage with the Parent Body Organisation for Sellafield, the private sector, utilities and reactor vendors and the National Grid to better understand and influence market decisions on new build.
5. To provide regular feedback into their respective organisations and back into the Group.

Aims – (Based on Influencing Action Plan)

6. Ensure a suitable and timely grid connection is available to enable a Utility to export the electricity produced from Sellafield and to reduce the planning risk for the National Grid to deliver this connection.
7. Make the site available to new build investors at a proper commercial rate, as part of an appropriate package and ensure that they bid positively for the forthcoming NDA OJEU new build process.
8. Influence Government's Strategic Siting Assessment (SSA) programme and ensure the necessary outcomes for the region.
9. Build economic case based on issues like cost of grid connection, cost of transmission and issue of sea lines offset against plutonium disposition (once government policy allows this) and exporting of energy north and west
10. Scope planning issues at Sellafield
11. Produce a marketing plan to highlight the positive aspects of Sellafield to the stakeholders, and the beneficial impacts of the implementation of a new build project on the local as well as wider economy.
12. Maintain and enhance robust local and regional support for nuclear new build in West Cumbria in the light of potential developments
13. Identify and secure Supply Chain Opportunities for new build in UK and NW
14. Determine short and longer term objectives with regard to Hydrogen and relevance to nuclear build
15. Explore the potential of attracting high energy usage industry into West Cumbria and exporting energy offshore to Ireland/Scotland