

NUCLEAR WORKING GROUP

MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 11 MARCH 2010

Present: Councillors D Banks (Deputy Chairman in the Chair); B Dixon; D Moore and A Norwood.

Apologies for absence were received from Councillor A Holliday and Miss E Woodburn.

Officers: F McMorrow, Director of Development; P Graham, Head of Development Operations; T Greer, Scientific Officer and C Willoughby, Member Services Technical Support Officer.

Also Present: Mr W Poulson, Mr H Rooms, Mr W Anderton and Mr I Irving, Nuclear Management Partners.

NWG 41/09 Minutes

The minutes of the meeting held on 21 January 2010 were signed by the Chairman as a correct record.

NWG 42/09 Disclosures of Interest

All Councillors present declared a personal interest in the agenda due to either being employed by, or having family or friends employed in the nuclear industry. Councillor Norwood also declared a personal interest in Agenda Item 5 (Reachback Presentation) due to being Site Officer for two US Managers and responsible for Reachback staff.

NWG 43/09 Delayed Meeting Start

Due to Officers and visitors not being present, the start of the meeting was delayed. Members requested it be recorded that they were unhappy that the meeting was unable to commence at the advertised time.

AGREED – that it be recorded that Members were unhappy that the meeting was unable to commence at the advertised time.

NWG 44/09 Reachback Presentation

Mr W Anderton provided the Group with an overview of the year to date at Sellafield and his view for the year ahead.

This included an update on 6 in 5, where six years of work will be achieved in five years, High Hazard Risk Reduction and the

aim of setting a world class standard on site.

'Rebuilding the base' was looking at site infrastructure and was a key target for 2010.

'Reachback' was using key personnel from around the world, changing the culture and achieving value for money. Together it was hoped this would make Sellafield a 'site of choice'.

During the discussion that followed, Members raised the issue of non essential staff working on-site and their relocation to offices in local towns. This would boost the economy of the local area and also contribute to a reduction in traffic on the A595 at peak times. It was noted that the infrastructure for Sellafield was already unacceptable and there would be issues for any New Nuclear Build due to the existing liabilities.

Members also discussed the Press involvement as the local communities were unaware of the positive changes taking place on site. It was generally felt that West Cumbria needed to be 'Talked Up'.

The NMP visitors were thanked for attending the meeting and for their update.

RESOLVED – that the presentation be received

NWG 45/09 Nuclear New Build Update

Members were provided with an update on Nuclear New Build by the Director of Development.

The Group was advised that with regard assessing the requirements for new build, Copeland Borough Council would be undertaking the work and the Independent Planning Commission would scrutinise.

The New Build consortium were currently putting a work group together.

The possibility of recharging the work to Government was currently being discussed with the Department for Communities and Local Government.

It was noted that the Local Authorities with proposed Nuclear New Build sites were working together.

RESOLVED – that the update be received.

NWG 46/09 MRWS Update

Members were updated on Managing Radioactive Waste Safely (MRWS) by the Director of Development

The Group was advised that the work programme was currently being worked on and that further updates would follow in due course.

RESOLVED – that the update be received.

NWG 47/09 Planning Application Reference 4/10/9001

Consideration was given to Planning Application Reference 4/10/9001 for a proposed Waste Management Centre for Low and Very Low Level Radioactive Waste at Former Keekle Head Open Cast site near Pica.

During the discussion of this item, Members stated that at the present time there was no justification for this development and insufficient evidence to support it.

RESOLVED – that the application be noted and at the present time there was insufficient evidence to support it.

The meeting closed at 3:05 pm.

Chairman.....

Date.....