

## **STRATEGIC NUCLEAR AND ENERGY BOARD**

### **MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 6 JUNE 2013**

Present: Councillors Elaine Woodburn (Chair); Peter Connolly; Lena Hogg and David Moore.

Apologies for absence were received from: Councillors Yvonne Clarkson; Allan Holliday and Dave Smith.

Officers: John Groves, Head of Nuclear, Energy & Planning and Clive Willoughby, Member Services Technical Support Officer.

#### **SNEB 01/13 Minutes**

The Minutes of the meeting held on 28 March 2013 were signed by the Chairman as a correct record.

#### **SNEB 02/13 Key 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 is led by National Grid and is 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 is planning to commence public community consultation for the next phase of the programme at the end of the summer 2013 and as part of the process an informal Members Briefing session will be arranged for mid-September.

## **Walney Extension Offshore Wind Farms**

- The time line for submission has slipped back and the developer now intends to submit their Development Consent Order (DCO) on the 28<sup>th</sup> June 2013.
- The developer has agreed to implement monitoring and mitigation of the sea bed for radioactive particles and debris, they have also carried out a night time assessment of the visual impact of the wind farm extension.
- The Board was advised that all photomontages are available in the Members Room.
- The evidence would be submitted to the Planning Inspectorate to be used in assessing the application, the Council would have an opportunity after submission to submit to the Planning Inspectorate a Statement of Common Ground on what aspects of the project we agree on and a Local Impact Report on the outstanding issues that the Council believe have an impact on the area which have not been addressed adequately through the submission.

During consideration of this item it was asked to whom the developer reported the findings of their monitoring.

## **Managing Radioactive Waste Safely (MRWS)**

- The Board was advised that over the last few weeks Council had been undertaking a review of the MRWS process. This review process would enable the Council to feed into the Government's "Call for Evidence" that was launched on 13<sup>th</sup> May 2013 and the closing date was 10<sup>th</sup> June 2013.

**RESOLVED** - That the updates be noted.

## **SNEB 03/13 Scottish Environment Protection Agency (SEPA) – Decision on Authorisation for the Disposal of Radioactive Waste**

Consideration was given to a report on the application made by Magnox Ltd regarding the disposal of Low Level Waste from Chaplecross and the decision made by Scottish Environment Protection Agency.

During consideration of this item the Head of Nuclear, Energy and Planning was asked to write to the Department of Energy and Climate Change to express the Council's view for the need of a National approach to Very Low Level Waste in Landfill sites.

**RESOLVED – That**

- a) the report be noted and
- b) the Head of Nuclear, Energy and Planning be asked to write to the Department of Energy and Climate Change to express the Council’s view for the need of a National approach to Very Low Level Waste in Landfill sites.

**SNEB 04/13 The UK’s Nuclear Future Strategy – The Vision.**

Consideration was given to a report which provided awareness of a series of documents which establish the Government’s Nuclear Industrial Strategy. This set out the UK’s nuclear vision and identified the current capacity and gaps in the research and development sector

During consideration of this item the Head of Nuclear, Energy and Planning was asked to write to the Department of Energy and Climate Change to enquire if an Action Plan and Time Line were available and to suggest that a further update report would be welcome.

**RESOLVED – That**

- a) the report be noted and
- b) the Head of Nuclear, Energy and Planning be asked to write to the Department of Energy and Climate Change to enquire if an Action Plan and Time Line were available and to suggest that a further update report would be welcome.

The meeting closed at 2.45pm

Chairman .....

Date .....