

STRATEGIC NUCLEAR AND ENERGY BOARD

MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 20 FEBRUARY 2014 AT 2:00PM

Present: Councillors Allan Holliday (Deputy Chairman in the Chair); Yvonne Clarkson; Peter Connolly; John Downie and Lena Hogg.

Apologies for absence were received from: Councillor David Moore and Elaine Woodburn.

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

SNEB 13/13 Minutes

The Minutes of the meeting held on 6 December 2013 were signed by the Deputy Chairman as a correct record.

SNEB 12/13 Progress on approaches to the Management of Separated Plutonium

Members were made aware of a position paper released by the Nuclear Decommissioning Authority in January 2014, which stated the progress made on approaches to the Management of separated Plutonium.

It was stated that there were three methods being considered, being:

- MOX (Mixed Oxide)
- Candu (Candu Energy)
- Prism – General Electric Hitachi (GEH)

During discussion of this item, Members requested a presentation from the NDA on the three options.

RESOLVED - That

- a) the report be noted, and
- b) the Nuclear Decommissioning Authority be requested to make a presentation on the three options being considered at a future meeting of the Strategic Nuclear and Energy Board.

SNEB 14/13 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 had acquired, in principle, the 50% stake of Iberdrola and 10% of GDF Suez, giving it a 60% holding in NuGen. GDF retains the remaining 40%.
- NuGen visited Copeland earlier in February 2014 to meet with Copeland and Cumbria County Councillors to discuss the potential opportunities and implications for infrastructure development in the area to support the nuclear new build mission.
- A further meeting with Nugen was scheduled for 17 December 2013 to progress the project and to sign off on the Planning Performance Agreement.

During discussion of this item Members requested that NuGen be invited to attend a future meeting of the Strategic Nuclear and Energy Board.

North West Coast Connections (NWCC) Project

- In late 2013, the National Grid had announced it had decided to pause the consultation process due to potential decisions being made regarding the nuclear reactor design which could directly affect the National Grid North West Coast Connections Project.
- Following the Toshiba announcement, National Grid have continued to meet with senior managers and directors from NuGen and its parent companies to discuss the programme for construction of the Moorside project to ensure that the National Grid programme for the NWCC project is aligned.
- As a result of these discussions, National Grid propose to hold a Stakeholder Reference Group workshop on 3 April 2014. An update following this workshop will be provided to a future meeting of the Strategic Nuclear and Energy Board.

Walney Extension Offshore Wind Farms

- The Walney Wind Farm Development Consent Order (DCO) is currently undergoing examination.
- The first issue specific hearing was held in Lancaster on 27 January 2014.
- A further Open Floor Hearing is due to take place at Millom Network Centre on 20 March.

Geological Disposal Facility

- Council responded to Governments consultation on the proposed revised GDF siting process, which closed on 5 December 2013.
- The Government is now considering all the feedback received and reviewing the proposed new process accordingly.

Members stated they remain committed to trying to find a final disposal site for High Level Waste, whether it be above or below ground, which is currently stored in out dated ponds and silos on the Sellafield site

Reviewing the Nationally Significant Infrastructure Planning (NSIP) Regime

- The Department for Communities and Local Government ran a consultation reviewing the NSIP regime which closed on 24 January 2014.
- Copeland Borough Council provided a response to the consultation.

RESOLVED - That

- a) the updates be noted, and
- b) NuGen be invited to attend a future meeting of the Strategic Nuclear and Energy Board.

The meeting closed at 3:20pm

Chairman

Date