

# Engagement Liaison Group

Meeting Report from 17 April 2007

Document Ref: LG3.2, issued 1 May 2007

## **Summary**

This report covers discussions during a meeting of the Engagement Liaison Group, 17 April 2007. The group brings together representatives from national organisations that sponsor stakeholder engagement processes in the UK nuclear sector. The aim is to enable stakeholder engagement efforts to be better coordinated by sharing learning and event calendars. The end of the report outlines a timetable of future stakeholders events as they are known at the time of writing.

## Document Details:

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### **The Convenor for NDA Stakeholder Engagement**

The Convenor is an independent third party that engages stakeholders in the NDA's business of cleaning up the nuclear legacy. The Convenor is a contractor to the NDA and is a partnership between two organisations:



3KQ focuses on consultation, dialogue and conflict management, having particular strengths in designing, organising and facilitating meetings and workshops



Dialogue by Design focuses on using new technologies to engage stakeholders, for example via consultation over the internet

## **1. Background to Meeting**

This Liaison Group was initially convened by CoRWM a couple of years ago. It has not met for about a year, and given the volume and complexity of stakeholder engagement work coming up in the UK nuclear sector it was judged appropriate to reconvene it.

These Liaison Group meetings are focussed on the process of stakeholder engagement, not the technical content. Discussions will be reported publicly: of particular note is the timetable of upcoming events that stakeholders will find useful (see end of this report). Meeting reports will be posted on the NDA website and any others that wish to do so. Once the meeting report is agreed as being accurate each participant is free to circulate it to relevant stakeholders.

## **2. Terms of Reference**

The group's Terms of Reference were agreed. The previously circulated draft will be shortened to remove much of the contextual background, and then published (see Appendix 1).

A selection of topics that were raised as possibilities for future discussion included:

- Designing a common calendar for all engagement events
- Sharing of stakeholder lists (within Data Protection limits)
- Funding stakeholders policy: variation and consistency
- Sharing lessons learned e.g. from CoRWM engagement etc

## **3. Membership**

Group members are currently drawn from national organisations that also sponsor stakeholder engagement processes in the UK nuclear sector. These are the current criteria for membership.

Members (and participants at this meeting) currently include:

- CIRIA (Mark Bentley)
- CoRWM (Pete Wilkinson)
- DEFRA (Rishi Pather)
- DTI (Angela Merron)
- MoD (Maggie Taylor)
- MoD (Tony Lokier)
- NDA (Richard Griffin)
- Convenor for NDA Stakeholder Engagement (Rhuari Bennett and Sarah Graham)

Discussions covered the involvement of various other organisations:

- Devolved Administrations. Will contact them to discuss how they want to be involved and kept up to date.
- Environment Agency. Needs to be aware of the group and given an opportunity to attend. Will contact them to discuss.
- Site Licensee Companies. Update on their engagement work should be fed through the NDA. Their work focuses predominantly on the site level not national level, and their involvement would potentially result in a doubling of the group size. Agreed to not invite them but ensure they are on the distribution list for the meeting report, so are kept up to date.
- NuLeAF. Don't meet second criteria of 'convening national stakeholder engagement processes'. They aren't part of the group but they should be on the distribution list for the meeting report so they are kept up to date. Same for COSLA.

## **4. Updates**

Brief verbal updates were provided by each organisation.

### **4.1 Energy Review, DTI and Devolved Administrations**

Nuclear consultation will be published in May along with the White Paper. Government has accepted the court's ruling on 15 February 2007 concerning the last consultation. The consultation document will bring together information and analysis we have collected and published since the Energy Review began in November 2005.

Consultation will run from May to autumn: exact timing and duration is to be confirmed. We are currently considering the various elements of the consultation, but likely to be based around a website.

### **4.2 NDA**

New Convenor now in place, a partnership between Dialogue by Design and 3KQ.

At the last National Stakeholder Group in November 07, participants agreed the NDA should review its arrangements for stakeholder engagement. Findings are emerging from this review, including amongst other things an issue around the cultural alignment of the NDA to stakeholder engagement work. Full findings will be published by 5<sup>th</sup> July (date of next National Stakeholder Group meeting).

An Engagement Plan is also being developed by identifying upcoming decision points and exploring how engagement can be built in early on. The Engagement Plan and the key findings of the process review (above) will be consulted on from May-early June via an online consultation, the first that this group of stakeholders has done. Paper-based input will still be possible for those without access to the internet.

10 May        Reference Group  
14-15 June    Materials Issue Group (likely final meeting)  
5-6 July      National Stakeholder Group  
22-23 Nov    National Stakeholder Group

For more info contact [Richard.griffin@nda.gov.uk](mailto:Richard.griffin@nda.gov.uk) or the NDAs convenor (contacts on inside cover).

### **4.3 MRWS, DEFRA and Devolved Administrations**

Consultation is looking at technical aspects of designing and developing a geological disposal facility and the process and criteria for identifying the siting of that facility. Consultation document should be launched before end of June: consultation length has yet to be decided but will unavoidably overlap with the DTI's nuclear consultation (see 4.1).

MRWS key events coming up include:

25<sup>th</sup> April - 1 day workshop in Birmingham. Aims to obtain input into developing Government's forthcoming consultation paper outlining the Government's framework for the implementation of geological disposal.

14<sup>th</sup> May - Workshop looking at proposed sub-surface screening criteria for a geological repository in the UK. Proposed criteria will be presented by expert groups at workshop to test their robustness, common sense and ultimate acceptability. Will also feed into the consultation.

Some consideration is being given to some engagement events in September but too early to know details.

### **Comments**

It was noted that the wider CoRWM recommendations that relate to other issues apart from geological disposal must not be forgotten. Effort needs to be made to ensure they gain appropriate profile in the MRWS consultation.

#### **4.4 CoRWM**

The work programme including extension is almost complete, ending on 30 April 2007.

Four phases of consultation have been undertaken since November 2003, covering schools, citizens' panels, bilateral meetings, discussion guide (online), and anyone could go online and comment on the programme. Approx 70 experts were used to assess options against the criteria.

Now using same citizens panel to look at the supplementary information needed for government (partnerships & packages, staged decision making process). As well as consultations and bilaterals with organisations across the spectrum of interests. A full list of consultees used by CoRWM in compiling the supplementary advice requested of it by Government can be found on the CoRWM website: [www.corwm.org.uk](http://www.corwm.org.uk)

"New CoRWM" should be in place by middle of August. Adverts for recruitment to the committee have been posted. The current committee have concerns that the new CoRWM will be an advisory body rather than an oversight body: meaning that Government will not be required to react to all of its advice.

#### **4.5 CIRIA: SAFEGROUNDS and SD:SPUR**

These two projects have a different focus to the other processes discussed above, as they aim to produce best practice guidelines for industry in decommissioning.

##### **SAFEGROUNDS**

Currently a year into the 2½ year programme to update the guidance documentation. Normally four stages for consultation on documents: scope, outline, 1<sup>st</sup> draft and 2<sup>nd</sup> draft consultations. The next round of consultation will start in May and will include a main workshop in October. All stakeholders on database will be informed of the consultation.

##### **SD:SPUR**

Guidance document published in 2005, now keen to carry out a national study to inform site-based decision making. In discussions with the NDA about this.

Both projects are overseen by steering groups. Wider consultation can potentially include anyone as carried out online.

#### **4.6 MoD ISOLUS**

Interim Storage of Laid Up Submarines. Process concerned with ILW and LLW from nuclear submarines once taken out of service. The ILW under

discussion is under 2% of UK total. Two public consultations carried out already, on earlier stages of work.

Currently in the 'assessment' phase of the project, focussing on how to get waste out of reactor compartments, and where they should be dismantled and where the waste should be stored? Identifying various technical options and envisage consulting on the results of these studies through the advisory group by the end of 2007. Plan to engage on an ongoing basis in advance of a final formal consultation.

Two stakeholder groups exist:

MoD ISOLUS Steering Group, next meeting 16<sup>th</sup> May  
ISOLUS Advisory Group, meeting 15<sup>th</sup> May

## 5. Way Forward

Agreed that these Liaison Group meetings are useful and should continue. London is currently suitable for everyone, from 9.30 - 12.30. Location will be the NDAs London offices but other organisations are willing to host the meetings as needed. Dates agreed are:

Wednesday, 25<sup>th</sup> July 2007  
Wednesday, 7<sup>th</sup> November 2007

## 6. Actions

<b>What</b>	<b>Who</b>
Talk to Elizabeth Gray about involvement in this group	RichardG
Talk to Fred Barker about NuLeAFs involvement	RhuariB
Circulate NDAs funding stakeholders policy	RhuariB
Circulate report of meeting and updated ToRs	RhuariB
Update Clearance and Exemptions WG with today's report	MarkB
Update SLCs with today's meeting report	RichardG
Discuss involvement in this group with EA and HSE	RichardG

## Timetable of Events in Nuclear-related Stakeholder Engagement

Date: 17 April 2007

	NDA	DTI + Dev Ads	DEFRA + Dev Ads	SAFEGROUNDS CIRIA	ISOLUS	CoRWM	Liaison Gp
<b>April</b>			25 Workshop				
<b>May</b>	10 Reference Gp	Approx consultation period - duration and timing to be confirmed. End in autumn.	14 Workshop		15 Advisory Gp 16 MISG		
<b>June</b>	14-15 MIG		Consultation				
<b>July</b>	5-6 NSG						25 Liaison Gp
<b>Aug</b>							
<b>Sept</b>			Potential events, tbc				
<b>Oct</b>					Doc review event		
<b>Nov</b>	22-23 NSG					7 Liaison Gp	
<b>Dec</b>							

### Key

MIG: Materials Issue Group  
 NSG: National Stakeholder Group  
 MISG: MoD ISOLUS Steering Group

## **Appendix 1**

### **Engagement Liaison Group Terms of Reference, agreed on 17 April 2007**

Document Ref: LG1.1

#### **Aims**

The Liaison Group aims to enable better coordination between national stakeholder engagement processes in the UK nuclear sector. Specifically it:

- Provides mutual updates from each engagement process
- Shares dates of upcoming events
- Looks for practical opportunities to streamline the load on stakeholders
- Shares best practice and lessons learned
- Meets approximately 3-4 times a year in London

#### **Membership**

It was agreed that the Group is open to national bodies that sponsor national stakeholder engagement processes within the UK nuclear sector. At the time of writing this includes: CIRIA, CoRWM, DEFRA, Devolved Administrations, DTI, MoD, NDA and Convenor for NDA Stakeholder Engagement. Membership is however open to any organisation fitting the criteria.

#### **Format of Meetings and Reporting**

Meetings will be held approximately every 3 months, for half a day. An email distribution list will be useful for offline updates, especially to share dates of events that are booked in. The intention is to publish the record of meetings publicly.

These Terms of Reference are open to review and suggestions by any participant.