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## **NUCLEAR SAFETY ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

**Activity Report from RG3 for period April 2008 to July 2008**

**and**

**Task Force 1: Progress Report to July 2008 NuSAC Meeting**

**by**

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### **ACTIVITY REPORT FROM RG3 FOR PERIOD APRIL 2008 TO JULY 2008**

#### **NDA- Funding Review**

The main focus of RG3 in the short time since our last meeting in April 2008 has been to complete the review of NDA and SLC funding as actioned. Since the last meeting we have met with senior management from UKAEA. A separate and detailed report has been prepared for NuSAC members, (NuSAC (2008) P17 and will be presented at this meeting.

This review and subsequent report took the form of a retrospective review of advice given to NuSAC at the time of the formation of the NDA, focused site visits to Sellafield Ltd, Magnox Electric directors, the Nuclear Installations Inspectorate, the Environment Agency, the Nuclear Decommissioning Authority and BERR. The main questions addressed in the review related to the overall adequacy of funding, its allocations between respective sites and the subsequent spend profiles.

The main conclusions were:

- 1) The current level of NDA funding has not adversely affected safety in the nuclear industry in the short term;
- 2) We are concerned over the longer term effect of moving funding away from Magnox and UKAEA sites;

- 3) We are concerned that decommissioning programmes had slipped when compared against pre NDA timescales; and
- 4) Good relationship management between NDA, SLCs and NII/EA/SEPA going forward is critical and the key to safe successful decommissioning.

More detail is given in the full report.

### **NDA – Hazard Prioritisation**

Following discussion at the April meeting regarding prioritisation of funding and hazard reduction NDA have agreed to give a paper at the July 2008 meeting updating NuSAC on the position.

### **Implementation of HSE and NuSAC advice regarding the plans for NDA's formation and strategy**

At members request, RG3 also undertook a review of the implementation of HSE and NuSAC advice regarding the plans for NDA's formation and strategy. The review is reported in detail in NuSAC (2008) P13. The conclusions are:

- Within the constraints imposed on them by the enabling legislation, the NDA has responded positively to the majority of comments and advice provided by HSE and NuSAC and has amended its strategy accordingly;
- NuSAC retains its reservations about the separation of financial and safety accountabilities intrinsic in the model. The model creates tensions within the NDA, Licensee, NII triangle which does not naturally promote a long-term focus on safe decommissioning and operations. NuSAC has asked NII to undertake regular reviews of the NDA/ licensee interface to provide ongoing assurance that the "intelligent customer" role is retained by the licensee; and
- With its focus on safety, HSE and NuSAC did not originally comment on the funding model adopted for NDA. NuSAC has seen no evidence that recent sudden changes to funding (at some sites) have had an impact on short-term safety, but is concerned about the potential for longer term impact."

### **Site Visits**

Other than the visit to UKAEA to discuss funding issues no other site visits were made during this period.

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## **TASK FORCE 1: PROGRESS REPORT TO JULY 2008 NUSAC MEETING**

1. The task force was established to “review the interfaces between SLCs, PBOs, NDA, NII, EA, SEPA, BERR and other government departments and devolved administrations. The task force involves members of RG1, RG2 & RG3. It will advise on issues with the interactions between the organisations and will cover the whole nuclear industry including new build, decommissioning, waste management and on-going operations.”
  2. Nothing further to report since the April 2008 meeting. However, it is clear from the report covering the review of NDA funding (NuSAC (2008) P17) that relationship management is a key area and will need more focus and attention if the industry is going to operate safely and effectively going forward. TF1 will be following this through on acceptance of the report.
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