

## NOTE OF A MEETING OF THE ENGAGEMENT LIAISON GROUP

7 October 2004, Ashdown House, London

### **Attending**

Fred Barker, Committee on Radioactive Waste Management (CoRWM)  
Richard Griffin, Nuclear Decommissioning Authority (NDA) Team, Department of Trade and Industry (DTI)  
Richard Mrowicki, NDA Team, DTI  
Chris Hargraves, ISOLUS Project, Ministry of Defence (MoD)  
Roger Jackson, Consultant to the ISOLUS Project, MoD  
Jeff Kersey, Project Manager of SAFEGROUNDS and SD:SPUR projects, Construction Industry Research and Information Association (CIRIA)

### **Apologies**

Apologies were received from Mary Allen and Pete Wilkinson, both members of CoRWM, and from Katherine Mondon of the CoRWM Secretariat.

### **Declarations of Interest**

FB reported that he was providing advice under contract to DTI on stakeholder engagement issues, and that he was a member of the ISOLUS Consultation Steering Group. He was attending this meeting as a member of CoRWM.

### **Purpose of Meeting**

Previous meetings had involved CoRWM and DTI, with the purpose of liaising over plans for stakeholder engagement on radioactive waste management and the setting up of the NDA. MoD and CIRIA had been invited to participate as they were also involved in initiating or sponsoring programmes of engagement on radioactive waste related issues.

CH referred to a recommendation from ISOLUS consultation that there should be demonstrable liaison between CoRWM, NDA/DTI and MoD.

It was agreed that it was important for each organisation to be able to take into account the plans of the others when developing

engagement programmes, and to exchange information about good practices.

### **Publication of Note of the Meetings**

It was agreed that the note of the meetings should be published. FB agreed to request that the note be published on the CoRWM website, with links to CIRIA, ISOLUS and NDA websites.

The website addresses are as follows:

<http://www.corwm.org.uk/>

<http://www.safegrounds.com>

<http://www.ciria.org/sdspur>

<http://www.lancs.ac.uk/users/csec/isolus2/isolus-homepage.htm>

<http://www.nda.gov.uk/>

### **NDA Update**

A Chief Executive and Chair had been appointed. Non-executive directors were in the process of being appointed. It was anticipated that the first Board meeting would be held at the end of October.

A 4<sup>th</sup> round of regional stakeholder workshops was starting on October 11<sup>th</sup>. The workshops were being held in 10 locations over a four week period. The focus of discussion would be the draft NDA Annual Plan. This would be the first time such a plan had been prepared covering all public sector civil nuclear sites. It was also a significant step to engage stakeholders in discussion of the draft plan, ahead of it being finalised for approval by the Secretary of State. Comments made at the workshops would be taken into account in finalising the plan.

Meetings with local green contacts were also being held as it was often difficult for them to attend daytime workshops.

RM reported that previous rounds of the workshops had been well attended and had been influential in shaping thinking, for example, on stakeholder engagement arrangements for the NDA.

The DTI were also organising a national workshop on November 25-26 for representatives of Local Liaison Committees (LLCs). This workshop would discuss transition of the LLCs to the new engagement arrangements around NDA sites (Site Stakeholder Groups, SSGs). These arrangements include having an independent Chair, wider membership, and scope to produce advice regarding site activities.

RM reported that the NDA would also set up a National Stakeholder Group (NSG), with membership drawn from SSGs and national groups and organisations. It was anticipated that the first meeting would be in June 2006.

### **CIRIA Update**

CIRIA are managing two projects on radioactive waste. The first, SAFEGROUNDS, concerns the management and rehabilitation of radioactively contaminated sites. The second, Sustainable Practices in the Use of Resources (SD:SPUR), is seeking to establish sustainable practices in the use of construction resources of very low activity that arise from nuclear site decommissioning.

JK explained that SAFEGROUNDS started in 1998, and developed guidance through a series of stakeholder workshops, which included developing a set of key principles. SAFEGROUNDS is now a learning network, providing a forum for discussion, dissemination and review of its guidance. It also assesses the requirements for additional guidance.

The SD:SPUR project started in November 2003. There has been recruitment of a Project Team and Project Steering Group (PSG), the development of a project workplan, recruitment of technical consultants, a stakeholder workshop and initial drafting of guidance. The PSG has broad membership, including industry representatives, regulators, MOD, Nuclear Free Local Authorities (NFLA) and the Low Level Radiation Campaign.

JK reported that the projects were seeking to develop good practice on e-mail consultation, and were assessing how to move forward with capacity building in Non-Governmental Organisations (NGOs). The SAFEGROUNDS Conference on March 1-2, 2005, would be discussing capacity building, following an exploratory meeting with people attending an NFLA conference in Hull 15 October.

The importance of a consistent approach to capacity building amongst those organisations sponsoring engagement programmes was recognised.

### **ISOLUS Update**

There have been two stages of consultation in ISOLUS (Interim Storage of Laid Up Submarines). The first - a 'Front End Consultation' - identified public and stakeholder concerns to inform contractor proposals for the interim management of submarine radioactive wastes. The second - Consultation on ISOLUS Outline

Proposals (CIOP) – identified public and stakeholder views to inform MoD short-listing of the proposals.

A third stage of consultation on the short-listed proposals was anticipated, but the timetable had not been finalised. The programme for the third stage will be developed towards the middle of next year. One of the factors to be taken into account is the need to consider clashes with CoRWM's programme of public and stakeholder engagement (PSE).

A report of the outputs from CIOP, including 50 recommendations, was available on the ISOLUS website. It was anticipated that the MoD would respond to the recommendations by the end of the year.

CH also drew attention to a 'Learning Report', which had been prepared by MoD's consultation contractors (Centre for the Study of Environmental Change, Lancaster University). This report provides a detailed assessment of 'process' learning points from CIOP, and would be placed on the ISOLUS website.

### **CoRWM Update**

CoRWM had just completed the first phase of its work on preparation and trialling. The outputs included preliminary views on the inventory of wastes that could need managing in the long-term, the long-list of potential management options, and public and stakeholder concerns. A Phase 1 report had been submitted to Ministers.

The second phase of CoRWM's work was primarily about reaching decisions about a short-list of long-term management options. CoRWM would be carrying out a first pass of a short-listing process in November. Its first period of PSE (PSE1) would be undertaken in parallel.

PSE1 would run from November through to the third week in January. It would include consultation on the inventory and long-list of options, and discussion of the factors relevant to short-listing.

CoRWM would refine its short-listing in the light of PSE1 outputs, and then undertake a second period of PSE in March-May 2005. PSE2 would include consultation on the proposed short-list, and on plans for CoRWM's third phase of work (detailed assessment of the short-listed options).

Methods in PSE1 would include:

- a National Stakeholder Forum
- mixed stakeholder discussions around a selected number of nuclear sites
- discussion groups with recruited lay members of the public
- a small number of pilot roundtables with existing social network groups
- web-based consultation
- direct mailings.

CoRWM would decide its short-list in June 2005.

### **Date of Next Meeting**

It was agreed that the exchange of information and discussion at the meeting had been useful, and that the next meeting should be at 2.00pm, on Wednesday 1 December.