

Geological Disposal Steering Group
14:30 – 16:00, Thursday 12 Sept 2013
Room LG07, 55 Whitehall, London SW1A 2EY

Attendees:

Department of Energy and Climate Change (DECC)

Welsh Government

Nuclear Decommissioning Authority (NDA)

Radioactive Waste Management Directorate (RWMD)

Committee on Radioactive Waste Management (CoRWM)

Apologies:

HM Treasury (HMT)

Ministry of Defence (MoD)

Minutes and actions from last meeting

1. The minutes of the 14 May 2013 were agreed and published on the DECC website. Actions from the last meeting had been completed.

Programme Highlight Report

2. DECC and RWMD presented the Programme Highlight Report to update on progress on the Geological Disposal Facility (GDF) programme since the last meeting. To inform the review of the siting process for a GDF a consultation had been launched on 12 September 2013 DECC informed GDSG that a series of deliberative events for a variety of stakeholder groups and members of the public were being organised to take place during the consultation period at a variety of locations. It was agreed that reformatting the highlight report should be explored. It was also agreed that greater understanding is required of the potential impact any purdah period in the run up to European Elections in June 2014 may have on the proposed GDF policy launch date. RWMD informed GDSG that a recruitment campaign was underway with a view to developing RWMD's in-house technical expertise.

Action 1: DECC/RWMD to consider reformatting programme milestones table to better reflect progress/slippage.

Action 2: DECC to ask CoRWM to consider attendance as observers at forthcoming deliberative events.

Integrated Risk Register

3. DECC and RWMD presented the GDF programme Integrated Risk Register. Risks have been reviewed by DECC and RWMD in light of the GDF siting review process. GDSG noted some minor differences in how DECC and RWMD programme risks are presented. DECC and RWMD explained that this reflects their distinct functions as policy and delivery/implementation bodies and the internal risk reporting methodologies that are used. GDSG members agreed that the guidance to both reporting methodologies is clear and the differences justified but that opportunities for further alignment could be explored.

AOB

4. GDSG members agreed that the focus of the programme over the upcoming consultation period is to ensure that stakeholders are consulted and have an opportunity to feed in to the GDF siting review process.

Meetings scheduled for 2013

- 2:00pm 12 November