

Geological Disposal Programme Board

15:00 – 16:00, Tuesday 8 July 2014

55 Whitehall, London SW1A 2AW

Attendees

Department of Energy and Climate Change (DECC)

HM Treasury (HMT)

Welsh Government

Nuclear Decommissioning Authority (NDA)

Radioactive Waste Management Limited (RWM)

Department for Communities & Local Government (DCLG)

Apologies

Shareholder Executive (ShEx)

Ministry of Defence (MoD)

Minutes and actions from last meeting

1. The minutes of the 13 May 2014 meeting were agreed and will be published on the DECC website. The actions from that meeting were on-going, being taken forward as part of the work planning for post-publication of the GDF White Paper.

Programme Highlight Report

2. The Board noted good progress on plans for publication of the White Paper and preparations for the work being taken forward post-publication. DECC informed the Board that post-publication there would be an update to programme milestones to capture key activities over the next couple of years. These would be focussed on the delivery of commitments made in the White Paper to provide clarity on issues like geological screening, land-use planning and working with communities.

Publication of White Paper

3. DECC informed the Board of the plans for publication, including media plans, Q&A and stakeholder engagement. The Board agreed that as part of the preparations clear lines would be needed on the positions of the Devolved Administrations to ensure stakeholders understood the geographical scope of the revised siting process.
- **Action 1: DECC to liaise with Devolved Administrations to agree lines on their respective positions on revised siting process.**
 - **Action 2: DECC to circulate Q&A document to Board members.**
 - **Action 3: DECC to e-mail Board members to inform them of publication date for White paper.**

Stakeholder engagement & communications post-publication

4. RWM presented to the Board the proposed approach to stakeholder engagement and communications in the period following publication, but before any formal engagement by potential host communities is anticipated. The approach clarifies the role of RWM – as developer of the GDF – in providing information to interested communities on GDF and the technical aspects of the siting process.
5. The Board noted that the approach was necessarily high-level at this stage and that more detail would be developed over the coming weeks and months, but that the use of information materials would be important in supporting RWM's engagement activities.
6. It was also noted that the approach to engagement in this period would be well supported and complemented by other work being taken forward post-publication, for example, in the area of 'working with communities' where questions on local-level engagement and decision-making would be addressed. Answers to these questions would help explain to potential host communities how engagement at the local- (as opposed to national-) level would work in practice.

Meetings scheduled for 2014

- 2:00pm 10 September
- 2:00pm 11 November