

Geological Disposal Programme Board
10:00-11:30, Thursday 2 July 2015
55 Whitehall, London SW1A 2EH

Attendees

Department of Energy and Climate Change (DECC)
HM Treasury (HMT)
Welsh Government (WG)
Nuclear Decommissioning Authority (NDA)
Radioactive Waste Management Limited (RWM)
Department for Communities & Local Government (DCLG)
Shareholder Executive (ShEx)
CoRWM observer

Apologies

Ministry of Defence (MoD)

Minutes and actions from last meeting

1. The minutes of the 1 April 2015 meeting were agreed in correspondence after the meeting and published on the DECC website. One of the actions from that meeting (Re-draft baseline dates for Regulation and Licensing of GDF) had been completed, and the other (Review governance arrangements, including delegation of responsibilities, in light of Siting Preparations work) is ongoing.

Update on progress with Initial Actions and Preparations for Siting

2. **National Geological Screening** - The draft national geological screening guidance was discussed with the Independent Review Panel (IRP) on the 23 June at a meeting in public and broadcast live on the internet. There will be some modification of the draft guidance as a result. Planning of the RWM consultation launch and events, and preparation of the consultation document is underway.
3. **Working with Communities** - Four meetings of the Community Representation Working Group (CRWG) have taken place between February and June and terms of reference, work programme, stakeholder engagement strategy, communications approach, and scoping document have been approved. The evidence base is currently being developed and a call for evidence was launched on 1 July (closing on 4 September). The Welsh Government now have observer status on the CRWG, following the Welsh Government policy statement adopting geological disposal as the long term management route for higher activity radioactive waste. The next meeting of the CRWG is on 23 July.
4. **National Land-use Planning** – Legislative amendments to the Planning Act 2008 (to bring geological disposal within the definition of nationally significant infrastructure) were finalised in March 2015. Work has begun on a draft National Policy Statement (NPS) and preparations are underway for a consultation this summer focused on the technical scope of the Appraisal of Sustainability (AoS)

and Habitats Regulations Assessment (HRA) of the draft NPS.

5. **Regulation and licensing** – Work is progressing on the development of guidance documents from the regulators.
6. **Preparations for Siting** – RWM has developed and agreed a baseline scenario which sets out a number of activities which could feasibly result from the successful launch of the siting process in 2017. The baseline scenario will be used to prepare implementation programmes for the siting process and to highlight risks or opportunities so they can be managed appropriately.

AOB

7. None.

Meetings scheduled for 2015

- 3 September
- 10 November