

**COMMITTEE ON RADIOACTIVE WASTE MANAGEMENT (CORWM)
PLENARY MEETING
14TH SEPTEMBER 2016, CARDIFF**

Venue: Mercure Cardiff Holland House Hotel and Spa

Timing: Wednesday, 14th September 2016, 09:00 - 15:00

Attendees: Laurence Williams (Chair), Lynda Warren (Deputy Chair), Brian Clark, Helen Peters, Janet Wilson, Gregg Butler, Stephen Newson, Paul Davis, Simon Harley, Melissa Denecke, Campbell Gemmell, Julia West, Simon Redfern, Joanne Hill, Andy Hall, Mojisola Olutade (Secretariat).

Apologises: None

Agenda Item 1: Meeting Open and Welcome (Chair)

1. The Chair welcomed the new Members of the Committee to the first open plenary meeting since the Committee was reconstituted. He welcomed the member of the public and Jo Nettleton Head of Radioactive Substance Regulation.
2. The Chair introduced the agenda and noted that Jo Nettleton would be making a presentation to the Committee on the Environment Agency's role in the disposal of radioactive waste.

Agenda Item 2: New Committee – CoRWM 4

3. The Chair introduced the new Committee: Melissa Denecke, Julia West, Joanne Hill, Campbell Gemmell, Andy Hall and Simon Redfern. He also thanked Brian Clark and Simon Harley for agreeing to support the Committee to help the new Members during the transition.

Agenda Item 3: Registration of Interest Register and Declarations of Interest

4. The Chair noted that the Committee had a conflict of interest register and that it was important for all new members to register any personal activities that could be seen as a potential conflict of interest with their role on CoRWM. He asked all new members to send detail of their interests to the Secretariat.
5. Janet Wilson declared that, having retired from Horizon, she had taken personal consulting work. The Chair asked her to contact him if she thought any particular contracts could be seen as a potential conflict. No other members registered any change to their status. He would advise on any action that would need to be taken.

ACTION 1: The Secretariat to send the Conflict of Interest Register template to all new Members.

ACTION 2: New Members to return the completed templates to the Secretariat so that the Register can be updated.

ACTION 3: Secretariat to update the Register and put it on the CoRWM website.

Agenda Item 4: Minutes of the last meeting

6. The Chair apologised to members for receiving the minutes late. He proposed to go through the actions arising. Members were encouraged to send in their comments on the minutes to the Secretariat by the beginning of the following week to enable revisions to be agreed with the Secretariat and the minutes put on the website.

Agenda Item 5: Actions

7. The Chair noted that all the actions arising from the June plenary had been completed but there were a number of outstanding actions from the March meeting.

March Plenary Meeting Actions

Actions	Action Holder	Status
ACTION 3: Secretariat to look into the feasibility of a visit to the WIPP facility in the US.	Secretariat and Chair	Ongoing: There is difficulty with the funding for CoRWM's attendance, but there might be an opportunity for this in the next financial year. The Chair hopes to convince BEIS to fund this trip for a number of the new Members, as it would be good for them to see a GDF in a salt geology.
ACTION 4: Lynda Warren to look at the report from CoRWM's previous visit to Bure and update the Committee on any significant differences in relation to what	Lynda Warren	Ongoing: Lynda Warren reported that she had not had the chance to search for the previous information, but she would

can be learned from the French experience.		endeavour to complete the action so that the new Members can be brought up to date with the French approach to geological disposal.
ACTION 5: Secretariat to request for the final draft of the NPS and send it to the NPS sub group.	Secretariat	Complete: This action has been overtaken by events and this is now completed.

Agenda Item 6: CoRWM Forward Look

8. The Chair introduced an additional item to the agenda, to give Members the opportunity to discuss future dates for CoRWM Meetings. Janet Wilson commented that it would be good to fix the dates and times for Committee meetings as far in advance as possible to make it easier to plan and purchase cheaper train tickets.
9. The Chair reported that it would be necessary to set up new subgroups and to prepare for the development of the 2017-18 work programme. Members agreed to set up a small group to review the situation and make a proposal for the Committee to consider at its November meeting. It was agreed that the Chair, Gregg Butler, Janet Wilson and Joanna Hill would form this group and they agreed to meet on 26th October.
10. Members agreed that all the new Members should attend the November meeting. Members proposed that Jessica Ellis, Head of the GDF should be invited to the meeting to give Members an update on progress with the Implementing Geological Disposal workstreams. It was agreed that the meeting would take place on the 28th November in London.
11. The Committee agreed that it would be useful to visit BGS to discuss how it is applying the screening guidance. The Chair agreed that Paul Davis, Julia West, Richard Shaw, Gregg Butler, Simon Redfern, Joanne Hill and Simon Harley would visit BGS at Nottingham.
12. The Committee agreed that the remaining two plenaries in the current financial year would take place on the 11th & 12th January and the 21 and 22 March. The January plenary will finalise the draft of the 2017-18 work programme, so it can be sent to stakeholders. The March meeting will consider the comments from stakeholders and agree the final version of the

work programme to be submitted to Ministers. Both meetings will be held in London.

13. The Chair reported that RWM has offered to give a briefing on geological disposal to the new members. It was agreed that as many of the new Members would attend the presentation on the morning of 10th October.

14. The Chair proposed that the agenda for the main meeting with RWM on the 10 and 11 October would cover;

- Progress on the public facing documents for the GDF designs for the 3 different the rock types.
- Update on the LOC and its applicability to all 3 rock types.
- Updates on the approach of RWM to the emerging developments in Scotland's policy of near surface disposal and the applicability of the LOC process to near surface disposal facilities in Scotland.

ACTION 4: Secretariat to follow up with Andrew Craze on timings for BGS report.

ACTION 5: Paul Davis to co-ordinate the visit to BGS in late November or early December.

ACTION 6: Secretariat to send updated CoRWM meetings calendar and circulate it to Members.

ACTION 7: Secretariat to invite new Member starting in 1st December to attend meeting on 28 November.

ACTION 8: Chair to forward a proposed agenda for 10th & 11th October to RWM.

Agenda Item 7: Role of the EA in Radioactive Waste Disposal (Jo Nettleton – EA).

15. Jo Nettleton and Doug Illett gave the Committee a presentation on the role of the EA in the disposal of radioactive waste. The EA presentation can be seen on the CoRWM website.

16. The Chair thanked Jo for a very comprehensive insight into the work of the EA in general and on its work in relation to the regulation of radioactive waste. Members asked a number of questions concerning the post-closure safety case, the concept of retrievability, and resources

ACTION 9: Subgroup 3 to discuss resource allocation to radioactive waste disposal with ONR at its meeting on 26th September.

ACTION 10 - Secretariat to send presentation slides from EA and Jo's biography to all CoRWM Members.

Agenda Item 8: Chairs Update

17. The Chair gave an update on recent developments and meetings attended since last plenary. He reported that Moji Olutade was leaving the Civil Service and as such he was to have a meeting with Officials to discuss the future arrangements for CoRWM's secretariat.

18. The Chair reported that he had met with Robert Williams, the Welsh Government representative on 28th June. This meeting discussed current developments relating to radioactive waste management in Wales. Members expressed concern about the changes in personnel at Natural Resources Wales (NRW), with a key member of the team leaving.

ACTION 11: The Chair asked the Welsh subgroup to speak to NRW on the implications of changes and their ability to effectively regulate radioactive waste disposal.

19. The Chair reported that he gave the keynote speech at the Institute of Physics seminar on geological disposal in Warrington on 13 July.

20. The Chair reported on his meeting with Bruce McKirdy on 19 July. It was one of his regular keep in touch meetings. He discussed the recommendations of the CoRWM 2015-16 Annual Report, particularly relating to the review of RWM's organisational structure.

21. The Chair stated that he had met with Andy Hall to discuss his role in CoRWM as he would not be available for his planned meeting with all the new Members on the 19 August.

ACTION 12: The Chair to send copies of his presentation at the IOP Seminar to Members.

Agenda Item 8: CoRWM Way of Working

22. The Chair opened a discussion on CoRWM's budget, time allocation, sub-groups and future ways of working. It was agreed to merge subgroup 2 and subgroup 4.

Agenda Item 9: Progress on Delivery of the 2016/17 Work Programme

23. Sub-groups Chairs gave updates on their activities since the last plenary meeting.

SG1 National Geological Screening - (Paul Davis and Simon Harley).

24. Simon Harley reported on a meeting with the screening subgroup and RWM. RWM had given updates from the May/June meeting on Geological information. RWM has realised it needs more tiers of documents to be added to the regional reports. The evolution of the project is to produce regional narratives of about 10 pages and technical reports on regions of about 50 pages or more.

SG2 & SG4 Communities and RWM Communication. (Lynda Warren; Gregg Butler + Brian Clark

25. It was reported that the two subgroups had held a combined meeting with BEIS officials.

SG3 Planning and Regulation (Helen Peters)

26. Helen Peters gave updates on the licensing sub group. The next meeting for the sub-group with ONR is scheduled for 26th September and Helen is in the process of drafting the agenda. She reported that she had attended the local government conference.

SG5 Welsh Activities (Lynda Warren)

27. Lynda Warren highlighted that the Welsh Affairs Committee publication confused CoRWM with RWM in its report. The report also made one recommendation in regards to waste but made no reference to volunteerism. Lynda suggests that CoRWM should respond to the Welsh Affairs Committee to correct the mistake.

Action 13: The Welsh subgroup to draft a response to the Welsh Select Committee pointing out the errors.

SG6 Scottish Activities (Janet Wilson)

28. Janet Wilson reported that the next meeting of the subgroup is scheduled for 29th September and Campbell Gemmell will be in attendance.

SG7 Safety Cases (Paul Davis)

29. Paul Davis reported that the next meeting was scheduled for 15 September.

SG8 RWM Organisation (Stephen Newson)

30. Steven Newson reported that there is a planned meeting to discuss the CoRWM recommendation on the need for a review of RWM's organisational structure.

SG9 Management of Radioactive Waste, Spent Fuel and Nuclear Materials – Gregg Butler

31. Janet Wilson proposed a site visit to Capenhurst, to look at the storage of Uranium. The Chair proposed this is reviewed at a later date as it was not a priority given the current demand on CoRWM's budget.

Agenda Item 10: AOB

32. The Chair nominated Lynda Warren and Brian Clark to embark on a project to consolidate all the existing CoRWM documents in order to bring the archive up-to-date.

List of Actions

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ACTION 3: Secretariat to update the Register and put it on the CoRWM website.	Secretariat	
ACTION 4: Secretariat to follow up with Andrew Craze on timings for BGS report.	Secretariat	
ACTION 5: Paul Davis to co-ordinate the visit to BGS in late November or early December.	Paul Davis	
ACTION 6: Secretariat to send updated CoRWM meetings calendar and circulate it to Members.	Secretariat	
ACTION 7: Secretariat to invite new member starting in 1 st December to attend meeting on 28 November.	Secretariat	
ACTION 8: Chair to forward a proposed agenda for 10 th & 11 th October to RWM.	Subgroup Chairs	
ACTION 9: Subgroup 3 to discuss resource allocation to radioactive waste disposal with ONR at its meeting on 26 th September.	Andy Hall	
ACTION 10 - Secretariat to send presentation slides from EA and Jo's biography to all CoRWM Members.	Secretariat	
ACTION 11: The Chair asked the Welsh subgroup to speak to NRW on the implications of changes and their ability to effectively regulate radioactive waste disposal.	Secretariat	
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Action 13: The Welsh subgroup to draft a response to the Welsh Select Committee pointing out the errors.	Lynda Warren	
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