

**Geological Disposal Programme Board (GDPB)**

**13:00 – 16:00, Tuesday 19<sup>th</sup> December 2017**

**RWM Harwell, Oxfordshire**

**Present:**

Stephen Speed

**Chair** - Director Civil Nuclear & Resilience,  
Business Energy and Industrial Strategy (BEIS) &  
GDF SRO

Umran Nazir  
Bruce McKirdy

GDF Programme Director, BEIS  
Managing Director, Radioactive Waste  
Management Ltd (RWM)

Peter Welch

Head of Programme for Waste Management -  
Nuclear , Nuclear Decommissioning Authority  
(NDA)

Robert Williams

Welsh Government

**Attendees:**

John Corderoy

RWM Programme Director

Ann McCall

RWM Siting and Engagement Director

RWM Chief Policy Adviser

RWM Team

RWM Project Manager

RWM Team

RWM Head of Delivery

RWM Team

RWM Community Engagement  
Manager

RWM Team

BEIS Policy Lead

BEIS GDF Team

GDF Programme Manager

BEIS GDF Team

BEIS Project Manager

BEIS GDF Team

GDPB Secretariat

BEIS GDF Team

BEIS External Affairs Manager

BEIS Communications, Partnership and  
Governance

Professor Campbell Gemmell

Acting Chair Committee on Radioactive Waste  
Management (CoRWM) – Observer

**Item 1 – Welcome and Chair’s Opening Remarks**

1. Stephen Speed welcomed the members of GDPB for the last board of 2017.

**Item 2 – Minutes and Actions from Last Meeting**

2. The minutes of the 20<sup>th</sup> November 2017 Board were agreed following minor amendment and will be published on the GDPB page of the Gov.uk website. All actions were complete or in hand.

**Item 3 – Programme Reporting Updates**

3. Risk Report - The Geological Disposal Facility (GDF) Programme Manager presented the programme’s top four risks. The Board agreed that these remained the top four risks and that the risk ratings had remained constant this month.
4. Communications Update – BEIS External Affairs Manager gave an update about how preparations are going for the consultation launch. There was also a discussion around the approvals process for funding for Project 2 tender processes. A report will be presented at each GDPB by the communications group.
5. The Welsh Government confirmed their readiness to launch their consultation on their

proposals for working with communities in parallel with the UK Government consultations in the New Year.

**Item 4 – Infrastructure and Project Authority (IPA) Project Assessment Review (PAR) Report**

6. The IPA PAR Recommendations Action Plan was presented by the GDF Project Manager. It was noted that effective collaboration between BEIS, RWM and NDA had resulted in the swift development of the plan. It was agreed that each action should be owned by a single owner who will take responsibility for progressing each action and reporting progress to GDPB. An updated Action Plan will be brought to the January GDPB.

**Item 5 - Siting Engagement and Implementation Overview Document (SEIO)**

7. The SEIO was presented by Ann McCall to seek approval for testing. The Board sought clarity on the key decision points during Project 2 and who would be making them e.g. the delivery body or government and how the testing process would be undertaken. The SEIO was approved for testing by the board, with the results being shared with GDPB when complete.

**Item 6 –Site Evaluation Framework (SEF)**

8. The SEF was presented by Ann McCall to seek endorsement of the approach and approval for testing. Members were pleased to note that earlier BEIS feedback had already been incorporated into the document. It was agreed that in addition to those proposed, Treasury should also be included in the testing of the SEF. The Board approved the SEF for testing and requested that it return to a later GDPB for final approval.

**Item 7 – Community Engagement Plan (CEP)**

9. The CEP was presented by the RWM Community Engagement Manager to seek approval for testing. It was noted by the board that the CEP needed to be adaptable to reflect the likely uniqueness of each community. The Community Engagement Plan was approved by GDPB for testing and would be brought back GDPB in 2018

**Item 8 – Update on the Programme Business Case (PBC)**

10. The GDF Programme Manager advised the Board that the PBC had been endorsed by NDA Sanctions Committee in December and would be presented to the NDA Executive in the New Year. The PBC was currently on track for approval and would be presented for approval at January GDPB. The SRO expressed his thanks to the GDF Programme Manager and all those staff from NDA and RWM involved for the huge amount of work that had been undertaken to meet the challenging delivery plan for this work.

**Item 9 – Update on the Project 2 Business Case**

11. John Corderoy advised the Board that the Project 2 Business Case had also been endorsed by NDA Sanctions Committee along with the PBC and will go through the same approvals process as the PBC. Once again the SRO thanked all those involved for their hard work in maintaining the pace in the delivery of the P2 OBC.

**AOB**

12. The proposed GDPB Forward Look was reviewed for the next few meetings and was

agreed with the Board.

13. The Chair thanked everyone for their time and closed the meeting.

14. The next meeting is scheduled for January 2018