

**Geological Disposal Programme Board (GDPB)**

**13:00 – 15:20, Monday 26<sup>th</sup> March 2018**

**1 Victoria Street, London, SW1H 0ET**

**Present:**

Stephen Speed

Umran Nazir

Penny Fox

Bruce McKirdy

James McKinney

Robert Williams

**Chair** - Director Nuclear Directorate, Business

Energy and Industrial Strategy (BEIS) &

Geological Disposal Facility (GDF) SRO

GDF Programme Director, BEIS

GDF Communications Director, BEIS

Managing Director, Radioactive Waste

Management Ltd (RWM)

Head of Integrated Waste Management, NDA

Welsh Government

**Attendees:**

John Corderoy

Ann McCall

RWM Chief Policy Advisor

RWM Policy Lead

BEIS Head of Geological Disposal

BEIS Policy Lead

BEIS Policy Lead

GDF Programme Manager

BEIS Project Manager

GDPB Secretariat

Professor Campbell Gemmell

RWM Programme Director

RWM Siting and Engagement Director

RWM Team

RWM Team

BEIS GDF Team

BEIS GDF Team

BEIS GDF Team

BEIS GDF Team

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BEIS GDF Team

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 March Meeting.

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

2. The minutes of the 26<sup>th</sup> February 2018 Board were agreed and will be published on the GDPB page of the Gov.uk website. All actions were complete or in hand.

**Item 3 – GDF Business Cases**

3. Umran Nazir and John Corderoy updated the Board on the GDF Programme Business Case approval at the BEIS Projects and Investment Committee. The Business Case for Project 2 (community engagement and site evaluations) was also approved by BEIS PIC and a full business case will return for approval in a year’s time. The Head of Geological Disposal congratulated all teams involved and Stephen Speed thanked RWM, NDA and BEIS for their effective teamwork. The Board agreed that the Programme Business Case should be reviewed before the next stage in the approvals process.

**Item 4 – Update on Consultations and Engagement Activities**

4. BEIS Policy Lead updated the Board on the progress with the delivery of the consultations on the draft National Policy Statement and the Working with Communities policy proposals and the stakeholder engagement activities associated with them<sup>1</sup>. The GDF team have been in direct contact with over 200 organisations, delivering 6 regional and London events and

attending a number of briefings. 93% of the 30 pieces of media which covered the consultations were positive or neutral. The BEIS Policy Lead advised they would email all stakeholders to remind them of the consultation closure date.

<sup>1</sup> Links for online consultations: [National Policy Statement For Geological Disposal Infrastructure](#) and [Working with Communities](#)

#### **Item 5 – GDF Critical Path and Re-baselining**

5. The BEIS Head of Geological Disposal and Ann McCall presented re-baselined project plans for Projects 1 and 2. The Board noted that the plans were ambitious, but agreed the Board had a duty to build on the momentum already achieved and do what it could to prevent delays to launch the Siting Process. The Board approved the plans.

#### **Item 6 – Community Support and Engagement Funding Mechanism**

6. Ann McCall presented 3 options for the procurement route for the administration of Engagement Funding. The options were discussed and the Board agreed that RWM's preferred option for procurement should be included when submitting their full proposal paper on engagement funding to the Board later in the year.

#### **Item 7 – Decision Making Arrangements**

7. The RWM Policy Lead and BEIS Policy Lead presented slides for discussion on the types of decisions that would be taken during the siting process and the potential governance surrounding these types of decisions. The Board asked that a full paper be submitted for review and approval later in the year.

#### **Item 8 – IPA Recommendations Progress Update**

8. The BEIS Project Manager presented the IPA Review Recommendation Action Plan and invited recommendation owners to update the Board on progress and their delivery confidence assessment for their recommendations. The Board were content with the progress made to date and encouraged recommendation owners to maintain the pace of delivery.

#### **Item 9 – Exception Reporting**

9. Risk – The GDF Programme Manager gave a short update to the Board on the programme's key risks. The Board agreed that these will be discussed at the forthcoming strategic risk review.
10. Wales – It was noted to the Board that the Welsh Government have had a good response rate to their consultations.

#### **AOB**

11. The Chair thanked everyone for their time and closed the meeting.
12. The next meeting is scheduled for April 2018