

Geological Disposal Programme Board (GDPB)

Monday 24th September 2018

1 Victoria Street, London, SW1H 0ET

Board Members

Stephen Speed

Chair – Director

Nuclear Directorate, Business Energy and Industrial Strategy (BEIS) & Geological Disposal Facility SRO

Bruce McKirdy

Managing Director, RWM

Umran Nazir

GDF Programme Director, BEIS

Malcolm Morley

RWM Chair

Alan Cumming

Director of Nuclear Operations, NDA

Welsh Government Official

WG (Deputising)

Attendees:

Ann McCall

RWM Siting and Engagement Director

John Corderoy

RWM Programme Director

Head of BEIS GDF Team

BEIS GDF Team

GDPB Secretariat

BEIS GDF Team

Prof. Campbell Gemmell

CoRWM Deputy Chair (Deputising)

Presenting Items:

Head of GDF Communication

BEIS GDF Team

Head of Campaigns

RWM

Programme Manager

BEIS GDF Team

Head of Site Characterisation

RWM

Policy Lead

BEIS GDF Team

Apologies: Sir Nigel Thrift – CoRWM Chair

Item 1 – Welcome and Chair’s Opening Remarks

1. Stephen Speed welcomed the members of GDPB for the September meeting. Stephen recapped the changes to the governance structure of the programme including bi-monthly board meetings, revised Terms of Reference and the establishment of a subordinate Joint Delivery Group for Geological Disposal chaired by Umran Nazir.

Item 2 – Minutes and Actions from Last Meeting

2. The minutes of the 25th July 2018 Board were agreed and will be published on the GDPB page of the Gov.uk website.
3. The GDPB Secretariat updated the board on the current status of the actions on the Actions Log. Three actions were in hand with all others complete.

Item 3 – Communications Plans

4. The Head of GDF Communications and Head of Campaigns summarised the paper outlining communications plans for the publication of the new working with communities’ policy and the launch of the siting process. The Board agreed that whilst the paper presented a robust plan, there should be more focus on supporting communities and the local and national benefits of a GDF, as well as utilising social media.

Item 4 – Programme Business Case

5. The Programme Manager updated the Board on the status of the Programme Business Case, including timelines for approval by the Major Project Review Group (MPRG) and Ministers.

Item 5 – National Geological Screening (NGS) Final Outputs

6. Ann McCall introduced this item and advised the Board that the sub-region outputs have all be approved by the RWM Executive Committee, RWM Board and the Committee on Radioactive Waste Management (CoRWM), as well as an Independent Review Panel from the Geological Society (London) and an independent expert.
7. The Head of Site Characterisation presented a mock-up of the proposed NGS website to the board, this included information and videos that will be publicly available during the siting process. The Board endorsed the approach taken by RWM to develop the final NGS outputs.

Item 5 – Key Project Developments

8. The Welsh Government Official thanked the Board for providing a draft of the BEIS Working with Communities policy and consultation responses and was pleased to confirm that the draft Working with Communities policy for Wales was compatible with BEIS's.
9. Campbell Gemmell updated the board on the CoRWM Plenary which took place on 18th September in Cardiff. Campbell also advised that CoRWM's back catalogue of documentation is in the process of being made publicly available online.

AOB

10. Stephen Speed thanked everyone for their time and closed the meeting.
11. The next meeting is scheduled for October 2018.