

**Geological Disposal Programme Board (GDPB)**

**Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> January 2021**

**Teams Meeting**

**Board Members:**

Corhyn Parr  
Stephen Speed

Umran Nazir  
Karen Wheeler  
Malcolm Morley  
John Corderoy  
James Gibbs  
Sir Nigel Thrift

**Chair** – Director of UK Waste Operations, NDA, SRO  
Director Nuclear Directorate, Business Energy and Industrial  
Strategy (BEIS)  
Deputy Director, BEIS  
CEO, RWM  
Chair of the Board, RWM  
GDF Programme Director, RWM  
Radioactivity Policy, Welsh Government  
CoRWM Chair

**Presenting Items:**

Siting and Engagement Director	RWM
GDF Programme Director	RWM
Director of Communications and Stakeholder Engagement	RWM

**Apologies:**

Alan Cumming	Director of Nuclear Operations, NDA
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**Item 1 – Welcome and Chair’s Opening Remarks**

1. Corhyn Parr welcomed the members of the GDPB to the first meeting of 2021. The announcement of the formation of the second Working Group was highlighted as further good news and progress for the Programme supporting this phase of work.
2. It was advised that today’s Board will be focussing on the short form Tranche 3 Business Case, keen to receive any comments and input from members.
3. The Board were updated on the progress of the Tranche 3 business case through the governance and assurance activities and processes noting the progress of the Critical Friend Review actions and the imminent IPA review.

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

4. The minutes of 10<sup>th</sup> November Board meeting were agreed and will be published on the GDPB internet page of the GOV.UK website.
5. The GDPB Secretariat updated the Board on the current status of the actions on the Actions Log.

**Item 3 – Siting Update**

6. The RWM Community Engagement & Siting Director presented a progress made following the launch of the first working group (Copeland) and highlighted the successful launch of the second Working Group (Allerdale) during the previous week. Steps are in

place to fully establish these Working Groups to enable them to function and engage with the local community effectively.

7. The Board were advised that there is a virtual exhibition available in support of the Copeland working group which can be accessed through the following link: <https://wip.virtualexhibition.space/copeland/>
8. The Board noted the ongoing progress made with the formation of the two working groups, the development of these working groups towards the formation of community partnerships and the progress being made with other interested parties across the UK.

#### **Item 4 – Programme Management Report**

9. The RWM Programme Director provided an update on the delivery performance of the GDF Programme.
10. The Board noted the overall programme performance, current confidence assessment in the siting activities and the negative impact to performance outturn for the financial year. The Programme Director advised that critical path activities had been prioritised and resource constraints continued to be addressed, in addition scope will be rolled forward as the next steps in delivery.
11. The RWM Programme Director provided an update on the NDA Assurance 'Critical Friend Review' for the GDF Tranche 3 business case, in support of readiness for the upcoming IPA review and the submission for approvals of the business case. The Board were advised that the documentation pack had been provided to the IPA review team and a successful planning meeting had been held.
12. The Board noted the outcome of the NDA Critical Friend review, the action plan in place to address the recommendations, the progress that has already been made towards them and the proposed assurance approach to outputs.

#### **Item 5 – Programme Delivery**

13. **Tranche 3 Short Form Business Case** - The RWM Programme Director provided an update regarding the progress that had been made to the Tranche 3 Business Case since the last briefing. This included the progress made through the NDA keyholder assurance and the timeline for the next steps in the governance process, NDA Board submission in April.
14. The GDPB endorsed the Tranche 3 short form business case as circulated.
15. **Programme Definition Document (PDD)** – The RWM Programme Director advised that the PDD was originally issued in 2017 and has been revised given progress made within the programme. The PDD forms part of the standard document suite for the GDF Programme and will be reviewed annually or when major changes occur that need to be recorded.
16. The updated GDF programme definition document was circulated for review and noted by the GDPB.

### **Item 6 – Stakeholder & BEIS Update**

17. The BEIS Director provided an update of the various recent document launches including the Ten Point Plan and the Energy White Paper. In addition, five short term focus areas were highlighted for consideration within the GDF programme.
18. An organisational update was provided advising on changes within BEIS, noting that the impact of these changes may need to be considered in future.
19. The BEIS Deputy Director advised that the GIAA (Government Internal Audit Agency) audit of the GDF Programme – Transition of SRO to NDA had been completed. It was advised that there were a number of recommendations to be addressed. These should be considered alongside and in conjunction with the other reviews and audits that have recently been completed for efficient and effective completion and close out.

### **Item 7 – Communications – Welsh Government Update**

20. Welsh Government provided a brief update regarding the Senedd elections and other activities.

### **Item 8 – AoB**

21. The stakeholder management plan had been circulated in response to a previous GDPB action.
22. The RWM Director of Communications and Stakeholder Engagement provided an introduction and overview of the stakeholder management plan including the national and local approaches and presentation of materials.