

Geological Disposal Programme Board
14:00 – 16:00, Thursday 20 March 2014
55 Whitehall, London SW1A 2AW

Attendees

Department of Energy and Climate Change (DECC)
HM Treasury (HMT)
Ministry of Defence (MoD)
Welsh Government
Nuclear Decommissioning Authority (NDA)
Radioactive Waste Management Directorate (RWMD)

Minutes and actions from last meeting

1. The minutes of the 18 February 2014 meeting were agreed and will be published on the DECC website. Action 1 was completed and Action 2 – requires further engagement with DCLG to identify an appropriate official to attend.

Programme Highlight Report

2. DECC noted that all responses and government's summary of those responses to the recent siting review consultation had been published on 27 February 2014.
3. The Board agreed that publication of the new siting process later in the year could be in the form of a White Paper.
4. RWMD reported that preparations for the move to become a Wholly Owned Subsidiary of the Nuclear Decommissioning Authority as of 1 April were on track.

Revised Terms of Reference

5. The Board discussed comments on the draft revised Terms of Reference. DECC agreed to make minor amendments to clarify the roles and accountability of key organisations in the governance of the GDF programme – particularly the NDA and the Welsh Government.
6. The Board agreed that the new Terms of Reference should be reviewed on an annual basis to ensure they support delivery of a GDF.

Action 1: NDA to send final comments to DECC to inform the final version of the Terms of Reference for the next meeting.

Action 2: DECC to clarify the role of Welsh government as representative of Devolved Administrations.

Siting Process Review Update

7. DECC gave a presentation on the latest thinking in the development of a revised siting process to be published later in the year. This highlighted key themes such as the national scope and nature of any revised process and the need to understand any potential implications of different planning regimes in England and Wales.

Meetings scheduled for 2014

- 13 May
- 19 June
- 10 September
- 11 November