

Minutes



MINUTES OF THE LOCAL COMMUNITY LIAISON COMMITTEE (LCLC) MEETING HELD ON FRIDAY 03 FEBRUARY 2016, AT HEYSHAM POWER STATION VISITORS CENTRE

Attendees:

<p><u>EDF Energy</u> David Leeman (Chair) Alan McCann Tim Pickering Paul Quinn Martyn Butlin Sarah Marshall Julie Bray Stephen Bryan Peter Coulthwaite Carole Irving (Secretary)</p> <p><u>St Peter's Church, Heysham</u> Rev Andrew Osborn</p> <p><u>Office for Nuclear Regulation</u> Stephen Saunders Steven Kirsopp Graham Moorcroft</p> <p><u>Environment Agency</u> Angela Wakefield Matthew Emptage</p> <p><u>Lancaster City Council</u> Mark Bartlett Councillor Colin Hartley Councillor Abbot Bryning</p>	<p><u>Lancashire County Council Emergency Planning</u> Ben Alderson</p> <p><u>Lancashire Council Council</u> Councillor Ken Brown</p> <p><u>Overton District Council</u> Kate Korab</p> <p><u>LAPTC</u> Graham Agnew</p> <p><u>Lancaster Chamber of Commerce</u> Mal Garnett Sandra Cotton-Shea</p> <p><u>Lancashire Fire & Rescue</u> Antony Ford</p> <p><u>Member of the Public</u> Maureen Kelly</p> <p><u>Craven District Council</u> Councillor Linda Brockbank</p>
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Apologies:

<p><u>EDF Energy</u> Richard Bradfield John Munro</p> <p><u>Country Landowners Association</u> Thomas Bowring</p>	<p><u>Lancaster City Council</u> Councillor Margaret Pattinson Councillor Carla Brayshaw</p>
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Attendees

Representatives from: Heysham Site, regulatory bodies, local government, emergency services Parish councils, neighbouring bodies and members of the public.

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Purpose of the LCLC:

Heysham joint site's Local Community Liaison Committee (LCLC) meets twice a year to provide a means for the Company to inform local organisations and members of the local community generally on matters arising from the operation of the power stations, including environment monitoring and emergency planning arrangements, on any new developments by the Company on or near the power station site or issues concerning the development of civil nuclear power in the United Kingdom and particularly nuclear safety issues as they may affect the local community.

To act as a means of liaison with local organisations and members of the local community generally on matters concerning the interaction between the power station and the local community including (by way of exclusion) infrastructure, employment, public information, transport and social questions.

Introduction

David Leeman, Technical Safety and Support Manager at Heysham 1 Power Station, welcomed members to the meeting and explained that he would be representing Richard Bradfield, Station Director Heysham 1, who had sent his apologies.

John Munro, Station Director Heysham 2, had also offered his apologies and Alan McCann, Technical Safety and Support Manager at Heysham 2 Power Station, would be representing him.

Mr Leeman then asked those attending to introduce themselves.

Safety Message

Mr Leeman referred to the practice adopted within EDF Energy to start all meetings with a 'safety message'. The 'safety message' adapted for this meeting related to site security and members of the committee briefly discussed this issue.

Brief notes from the meeting

Heysham 2 Update

Mr McCann said that since the last LCLC meeting, Heysham 2 had maintained its high standards during recent operation and its statutory outage. In August 2016, Unit 8 broke a world record for operation, previously held for 22 years by a Canadian reactor, by continuously running for 895 days.

On 16 September, Unit 8 was shut down for its statutory outage, described by Mr McCann as a car's MOT, and during this period 12,000 pieces of work had been carried out with no 'lost time accidents'.

There were three very minor hand injuries requiring hospital treatment. Following treatment all three individuals returned to work. Mr McCann explained that the site encourages the reporting of such low level incidents as it helps the site stop bigger issues.

In January, Unit 8 was taken out of service for seven days for maintenance to a turbine. The unit was safely returned to service.

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In December 2016, during routine battery charging in the turbine hall, a small amount of hydrogen was detected which set off a 'site incident'. This allows for all staff to be safely accounted for. The area was ventilated and the hydrogen levels quickly return to normal.

In May 2017, a group of 30-35 members from the World Association of Nuclear Operators (WANO) will be spending three weeks on site. They will give feedback, advice and guidance on areas for improvement while also identifying the site's strengths.

Mrs Mo Kelly asked about the efficiency of the filters within the reactor's core.

Mr McCann responded by explaining that the filters are checked on a regular basis and the Environment Agency is immediately informed if any anomalies are detected.

Mr McCann concluded by telling the meeting that Heysham 2 has an excellent safety record which is maintained by the site's good operational practices and the continuous training of all staff. This was reflected in the site's Employee Engagement and Nuclear Surveys which showed that for staff safety is their number one priority.

Heysham 1 Update

Mr Leeman also updated the meeting. The plant is continuing to operate safely and reliably. In 2016 the station achieved its target output of 7.6 Terawatt hours (TWh). As a company 65 TWh was achieved in 2016.

A recent trend in minor hand injuries has led to a site campaign to ensure everyone wears the correct protection level of gloves.

County Coun Ken Brown asked about the forthcoming outage. Mr Leeman said it would be on unit 1 and is planned to take around 55 days.

Mr Leeman said that Heysham 1 has reduced its output by a small amount temporarily – by 10% in one of the two reactors – to allow for management of an issue with a small number of fuel pins.

Mr Leeman said that it is normal practice to remove such fuel pins from the reactor as part of the planned refuelling operation which takes place every few months.

He added that the site had worked with the regulator on this issue, he emphasised that nuclear safety remains the site's priority at all times.

Staffing

EDF Energy recruits 12 to 14 new apprentices across both sites annually. During the apprenticeship campaign the Visitor Centre had hosted Open Days for those interested in the scheme.

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Routine testing of candidates looking to join in September 2017 is currently being undertaken with interviews to follow. Both sites are continuing to enforce the company's Diversity and Inclusion policy.

Applications for wider station jobs are still strong and recently 270 applicants recently applied for three security guard posts.

Sites' environmental reports

Tim Pickering and Dave Yates gave the environmental reports from the sites. In June 2016, Heysham 1 had not had any top-tier environmental events this now stretches back four years, which the site is very proud of. Heysham 2 will be continuing to build on its strong environmental protection record during 2017.

Matthew Emptage and Angela Wakefield, lead Environment Agency regulators, talked the meeting comprehensively through their reports. They explained that any improvements at one site would be shared with other sites within the fleet and are often shared with the ONR,

Mrs Mo Kelly asked what date Heysham's 1 operational life has been extended to and she was informed it was 2024.

Regulatory Bodies

Steve Saunders, of the Office for Nuclear Regulation, informed the meeting that this will be the last meeting he attends as he is moving to Sellafield. He explained that in accordance with ONR policy, regulators are changed every few years and Graham Moorcroft will be joining Heysham 1 from Sizewell B on 1 April 2017.

Graham took a few moments to introduce himself to the members. Mr Saunders also took the meeting through the ONR's latest quarterly report.

Emergency planning

Mr Quinn announced that April will see the start of the annual 'emergency exercise' season on Heysham 1 whilst the season is already successfully underway on Heysham 2.

Mr Quinn said that in January 2017 the stations held a joint 'on-site' and 'off-site' exercise. This was the biggest exercise which EDF Energy had ever undertaken. It involved 1500 people and lasted six hours.

Mr Saunders added that 30 ONR inspectors were also involved and a summary of their report will be shared with the stations and will be available on their website: www.onr.org.uk/. Ben Alderson was the Lancashire County Council Lead for the planning of the 2017 exercise.

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Mr Quinn told the meeting that the potassium iodate tablets which are issued for those within the current emergency planning areas around UK sites will now have a shelf life of six years, and they will be routinely replaced.

Coun Bryning asked if the new link road would be used to evacuate local school children in an emergency. He was advised that there are no schools in the 'detailed emergency planning zone'.

Relevance at events at other locations

EDF Energy was continuing to concentrate its new build activities at Hinkley Point and Sizewell. Potential output at Hinkley Point will be 7% of the country's requirement, roughly equivalent to Heysham 1 and 2 combined.

The meeting also briefly talked about proposed nuclear new builds at Moorside in Cumbria by NuGen, Wylfa, on Anglesey by Horizon Nuclear Power and also about proposed tidal lagoons.

Small Modular Reactors were also briefly discussed. 'Farms' of them could potentially be built depending on the surrounding infrastructure.

Date of next meeting

The next meeting of the LCLC meeting is scheduled to be held on Friday 20 October 2017, potentially at Morecambe High School for a 'Question Time' event with pupils and members although final arrangements are yet to be confirmed.

Mo Kelly enquired if it was proposed for the LCLC meetings to be held twice a year. In response Martyn Butlin explained that it is hoped that in the future one meeting per year will be held Heysham Power Stations Visitor Centre and one would be held in the community.

It was agreed there were no actions to be taken and Dave Leeman closed the meeting by thanking all members for attending,