

Minutes of Bradwell Monitoring Committee, WMTC (- DRAFT)

Meeting held on Wednesday 18 th January 2017 at 10.00am in the Council Offices

Attendance: Cllr Peter Banks (Vice-Chair); Cllr David Bragg; Alan Brook; Barry Turner; Graham Farley; Richard Haward; Bea Chandler;

Apologies: Cllr Sylvia Wargent (Chair); Cllr Sophie Weaver; Ian Clarke; Jane Dixon.

1. Minutes of the last meeting: The minutes of the meeting held on 6th December 2016 were agreed as a correct record and signed by Cllr Peter Banks, as acting Chairperson.

2. Matters arising were taken as a review of the “Task Tracker”:

Please refer to file: [20170118 TaskTracker Bradwell Monitoring Ctte 02.pdf](#)

3. LCLC Meeting Report:

3.1 It was noted the Chairman of the meeting allowed Magnox and the EA to ignore the requirement for responses to be given for written questions, only permitting verbal questions from the floor.

3.2 Scott Raish, Magnox, gave reassurances that no more FED would be delivered to Bradwell for treatment and disposal into the Blackwater Estuary. The existing stockpile was all that was being disposed of in this way.

3.3 Graham Farley reminded the Group that Magnox had a track record of changing their minds on verbal promises in the past, so he saw no comfort in this. Graham also noted the recent document issued by the LCLC Secretariat, regarding the consultation for the NDA Draft Business Plan, closes on the 9th February 2017.

https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/576782/NDA_Draft_Business_Plan_2017_to_2020.pdf

3.4 Graham drew attention in this document to reports Sizewell will be ready to start transporting out waste material in 2018, but do not specify **where** they will be shipping to. His assumption is this may well be to Bradwell, with significant FED being brought in ‘through the back door’ for processing and dispersal using the Bradwell dissolution plant.

3.5 It is suggested WMTC should write to Essex County Council and the EA, clarifying if it is their intention to permit transport through the county of such waste material, without enforcing restrictions / limitations on how it is to be stored, or disposed of. Borough Cllr and Essex County Cllr J Jowers should be considered an asset to this approach.

NB. If ECC do not enforce such limitations, thereby allowing subsequent processing treatment and dispersal into the Blackwater Estuary of extra FED and waste material (from off-site), then the Council becomes complicit in this process. We seek

confirmation there will be no more radioactive waste transported to Bradwell which is permitted to be processed there and subsequently dispersed into the Estuary.

3.6 We need to establish why were we not provided with a copy of the NDA document earlier, since it was prepared before the LCLC meeting. Given the very short consultation period stipulated (yet again!) does this suggest they are really hiding a possible plan to use Bradwell as a major FED reprocessing plant?

3.7 It was suggested WMTC should write to the LCLC requiring answers to written questions, also requesting the promised copy of the Powerpoint slides used for the meeting's presentation. Peter confirmed he had undertaken this but had no response.

4. Ongoing Concerns re FED: Graham Farley is pushing ahead with a crowd-funding plan to raise £5k to try to get a peer review of data from Magnox and get it taken to Judicial Review. He asked if the Council website could attach a link to his scheme. The Group was asked to consider giving its support and using the "Justification" approach being developed elsewhere and by Chris Busby. Busby has produced data supporting his theory, viz. that the Government's modelling techniques only cover 50% of the radiation damage humans are exposed to, in the event of a radiation catastrophe (Christmas Island servicemen's experiences after exposure to soil were mentioned). Busby postulates Low Level Radiation can also cause illness and genetic mutations in humans.

5. Update from Environment Agency :

5.1 Cllr Banks reported a recent telephone conversation with Andrew Pynn, Environment Agency Nuclear Regulator, the LCLC meeting contact, who was indignant that Magnox had not supplied presentation slides he'd promptly forwarded to them and for the lack of response to our written questions. He also stated that the EA had been taken aback by the volume and detail of submissions received. As a direct consequence (email to P. Banks) the EA has delayed Determination on the Permit Variations from January 5th until early Feb 2017.

6. Latest News re Bradwell New Build:

6.1 Bradwell B Generic Design Assessment (GDA) The assessment review has been initiated on the Hualong One Reactor generic design, now named as the UK HPR 1000. This is a 4 to 5 year process. The Chinese are close to completing the construction of the first of these new reactor designs in China. It is expected to start up and be running during 2017 when they will be able to commence full testing of this design.

6.2 In Ian Clarke's absence Peter talked through his concerns on applying correct assignment to who is final authority on Bradwell new build and the hierarchy of consultees. To this end he provided the link to the government's Nationally Significant Infrastructure document which was discussed concurring with Ian's point that decisions will be taken by the Planning Inspectorate and not Maldon District Council. See here:

<https://infrastructure.planninginspectorate.gov.uk/wp-content/uploads/2013/04/Advice-note-8-1v4.pdf>

6.3 We should concentrate efforts, targeting their 'Achilles' Heel' weak points.

6.4 Chris Busby may have exposed weaknesses in future developments with his studies. It is recognised the Government is doing everything it can to sideline him.

6.5 The relevance of the UK being a signatory to Euratom needs evaluation.

6.6 Cyber attacks and Chinese security risks to the National infrastructure.

6.7 The financial weaknesses and fallibility of EDF, as a build partner.

6.8 Effects of any new build and waste disposal in a Marine Conservation Zone (MCZ).

6.9 German studies on health in vicinity of Nuclear Power Plants affecting incidences of child leukaemia. Although, once again, the Government Agencies argue strongly against this data being reliable or relevant.

6.10 The CBC evacuation plan for Mersea Island remains a strong argument against new build. Flooding effects have, ironically been given as the reason for Bradwell Planners to refuse an application for use of a local caravan site as temporary accommodation for construction workers for Bradwell B!

7. Any Other Business:

7.1 WMTC to chase up the Yacht Clubs and Mersea Haven for a response to our letter.

7.2 It was noted that the low level waste repository (LLWR) at Drigg is approaching capacity, as recently exposed by the C4 TV programme presented by Paul Merton. Sea encroachment through coastal erosion is also starting to threaten the Drigg facility.

8. Date and time of next meeting: Wednesday 22nd February 2017 @ 10.00am in the Council Offices, Melrose Road.