

Hunterston A Site Achievements 2008/09

The last few months have been very busy at Hunterston A Site as we come to the end of a difficult financial year. Tragically, we lost two of The Site team strength through fatal road traffic accidents, one in June 08 and one in December 08 and it has had a significant impact on us all. Additionally, we have had two projects that have been delayed. However, we have introduced a new driving standard to improve road safety awareness. We made some changes on the projects and I'm pleased to report that both are now progressing well. So a challenging year, but I wanted to share some of the significant achievements and successes with you.

SAFE - another excellent year's performance with not a single day lost through injury over the last 12 months, only one recordable injury and just 12 to 13 first aid cases this year. Safety culture is strong at Hunterston A Site, evidenced by the fact that we have sacrificed profit this year on the reactor building re-cladding work by our conservative approach to safety. Magnox North Company Safety Committee has identified 27 best practices across the company to date and 12 of those originated from Hunterston A Site.

CLEAN - another year with zero environmental non-compliances. Hunterston A Site is committed to improving our environment again this year. We have halved the radioactivity levels in the pond; this will lead to reduced impact from discharges to the environment in the future. We have also launched our Environmental Biodiversity Action Plan committing the site to continued improvement. Hunterston A Site takes the lead chairing a three Scottish Sites Environmental forum to improve working with the Scottish Environment Protection Agency (SEPA).

SECURE - The Site takes its security matters very seriously. We continue to provide exceptional, but value for money, security performance which has been acknowledged by the Regulator. Not content, we continue to challenge the status quo to improve further our efficiency. Hunterston A Site took part in the UK's first joint counter terrorist exercise with the B Station this year. The authority and regulators reports on our performance was very positive.

DELIVERY - since the Nuclear Decommissioning Authority (NDA) took ownership of the UK's nuclear liabilities, Hunterston A

Site has completed 21 projects and with no over spends. We have reduced hazard while making financial savings, with the most recent example being the removal, processing and disposal of the redundant fuel skips. This challenging Intermediate Level Waste (ILW) stream has been reduced to Low Level Waste (LLW) and disposed of to the Low Level Waste Repository at Drigg two and a half months early, with savings of £300k. Additionally, we accelerated in £1.5m worth of pond decommissioning work into this financial year.

RECOVERY - Decommissioning projects sometimes have problems; The Site has demonstrated superior performance, marshalling the best site resources supported by others across the company to play a lead role in identifying, confronting problems and fixing them. This has led to a significant recovery of one project from only 20% progress complete in June to 90% progress complete by March 09. Ultimately, our approach should result in faster and more cost effective process than has ever been seen before.

INNOVATION - Hunterston A Site innovative approaches have led to >£10m savings this year for the NDA. These comprise of:

- £4m saving on Argon fire suppression system;
- £400k saving on reducing waste storage requirements;
- £6m saving on finding a way to reuse other site storage boxes.

CROSS COMPANY WORKING - The Site plays a particularly active role across the company. This year, 6% of the Hunterston A Site team were seconded both in and out from the Site. This demonstrates mobility, flexibility and sharing learning across sites. Energy Solutions managers, covering Commercial

and Programmes functions at Hunterston A Site, also manage the same functions at Chapelcross. Every single member of the Site lead team is actively involved in one or more workstreams of the Magnox North Business Improvement Plan.

HAZARD REDUCTION

- Hunterston A Site prioritises its hazard reduction programme in line with the NDA's guidance. Whether it's removing the failing reactor glazing system, targeting mobile ILW waste streams, disposing of pond skips or halving the radioactivity levels in the biggest pond in the Magnox Fleet, using the Modular Active Effluent Treatment Plant (MAETP), Hunterston A Site deals with difficult waste stream in a cost effective manner. This removes or reduces real hazard and reduces the nuclear liability for the UK taxpayer.

SOLID INTERMEDIATE LEVEL WASTE ENCAPSULATION (SILWE)

- Hunterston A Site is to work closely with Scottish Government and other agencies to explore potentially better options for some solid waste stream disposals. A safety justification has been made to support this decision. This justification is to be submitted to the Nuclear Installations Inspectorate (NII).

PARTNERSHIP - The Site, in following the Magnox North Values, works hard to develop and retain effective partnerships. Whether its regulators, customer, workforce, local community or supply chain, we demand of ourselves the highest ethical standards. Integrity, openness, trust and teamwork are at the heart of how we operate.

Peter Roach
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