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# Managing contaminated land and decommissioning wastes on nuclear and defence sites – *changing culture and practice*

A SAFEGROUNDS with SD:SPUR  
conference

12-13 March 2007, London



## Background

This conference covers the management of contaminated land and decommissioning wastes on nuclear and defence sites. There will be presentations on experiences from sites, the management options available to operators and the latest developments in regulatory and policy frameworks. The underlying themes are the benefits of building stakeholder relationships, effective supply chains and cultures of good practice.

Richard Waite of the Nuclear Decommissioning Authority will open the conference with a keynote address on the scale of the challenges facing sites. Other features include a conference dinner where Professor Gordon MacKerron of CORWM will deliver a talk on the long-term benefits of building stakeholder relationships.

Participative workshops are a key feature of the event and the following sessions are on offer to delegates:

- deciding site end-states with local stakeholders
- maintaining good records
- communicating technical information to non-technical people
- good practice tools for waste management
- the waste hierarchy – opportunities and risks
- latest waste management experience from Sellafield and Dounreay.

In addition, there will be a suppliers' exhibition, plenty of networking opportunities with people from all perspectives and updates from CIRIA's nuclear networks.

## Why you should attend

You should attend if you want to:

- learn more about the continuing work of the SAFEGROUNDS and SD:SPUR Learning Networks and the development and implementation of stakeholder-developed good practice guidance
- learn about the increasingly structured and practical approaches that these networks are developing
- gain insight into the developing regulatory and policy context
- explore practical stakeholder involvement processes
- explore the cultural issues and practical issues experienced by those involved in contaminated land and waste management
- receive updates on areas of uncertainty and risk
- visit a range of supplier exhibitor stands.

## Who should attend?

Over 150 delegates and speakers are expected to attend. Participation is actively sought from a wide range of stakeholders to enable the sharing of different views:

- nuclear industry
- non-government organisations
- consultants
- MoD and defence
- regulators
- community-based organisations
- contractors
- trade unions
- technology and service vendors
- local authorities
- campaign groups
- independent academics, researchers and analysts
- government, including policy-makers and NDA.



## Day I Programme

- 09:20 Registration, refreshments and exhibition
- 09:50 **Chairman's introduction**  
Richard Harris, *Director, 3KQ*
- 10:00 **Key note address:**  
**The scale of the challenge**  
Richard Waite, *Director of Engineering, Nuclear Decommissioning Authority*
- 10:20 **The latest developments in the regulatory framework for contaminated land**  
Marion Hill, *Independent consultant and author of the SAFEGROUNDS regulatory framework paper*  
Colette Grundy, *Radioactively Contaminated Land Specialist, Environment Agency*  
Marion will present an overview of the regulatory framework. This will include an examination of recent and impending changes to regulations and policies and their implications. Colette will talk specifically about the extension to the Part 2A regime and the role of the Environment Agency in its regulation.
- 10:50 Refreshments and exhibition
- 11:20 **Driving good practice in the defence context**  
Fred Dawson, *Health Physics Assistant Director, Directorate of Safety & Claims, Ministry of Defence*  
Mark Hill, *Head of Strategic Initiatives, Estate Strategy & Policy Directorate, Defence Estates*  
Sean Amos, *Environmental Projects Advisor, Environmental Projects Group, Atomic Weapons Establishment*  
Fred will set the defence context and Mark will look at the role of the SAFEGROUNDS key principles and guidance in managing contaminated land on the UK's defence estates. Sean's presentation will cover AWE's approach to stakeholder engagement for a major decommissioning project.
- 12:05 Discussion session with panel of speakers
- 12:30 Lunch and exhibition

## 14:00 Workshops

### Workshop A:

#### Deciding site end-states with local stakeholders

Doug Graham, *Manager Radwaste Strategy Department, UKAEA*

Claire Gallery-Strong, *Sellafield End States Manager, British Nuclear Group*

Doug will lead the session with a presentation on UKAEA's recent work, drawing on SAFEGROUNDS principles and guidance. Claire will then introduce experience from Sellafield. Fred Barker of the Local Government Association's Nuclear Legacy Advisory Forum (NuLeAF) and David Collier of Faulkland Associates will be on hand to contribute to the discussion. A number of NGOs have agreed to feed in their experiences.

### Workshop B: Keeping good records

Julian Cruickshank, *formerly Managing Consultant, Serco Assurance*

Stephen George, *Consultant, Iron Mountain*

Julian and Stephen are the authors of the latest SAFEGROUNDS guidance document. This provides good practice guidance on record-keeping for contaminated land and land quality. They will talk about the guide and how it addresses the knowledge requirements of nuclear and defence sites and their related stakeholders.

### Workshop C: Communicating technical information to non-technical people

Pippa Hyam, *Process Director, Dialogue by Design*

Dr Andy Thomas, *Chairman of the SAFEGROUNDS Learning Network, Future Solutions*

Pippa is a pioneer in the use of stakeholder dialogue and participatory processes in decision-making. She will lead a discussion on developing communications programmes. This session will look at when and why communications plans are needed, the different forms of communication and how they can be tailored to non-technical audiences. SAFEGROUNDS Chairman, Andy Thomas will then discuss the forthcoming SAFEGROUNDS Citizens' Guide.



15:00 **Plenary session**

Delegates will share the key points arising from their workshops, followed by a short discussion and question and answer session.

15:30 Refreshments and exhibition

16:00 **How we assess risk for the management of contaminated land and decommissioning wastes**

Graham Smith, *Technical Director, Enviro*

Dr Chris Busby, *Director, Green Audit*

Graham Smith will set the scene on discussions about radiation risk and uncertainty and explain how they have been dealt with within the SAFEGROUNDS and SD:SPUR contexts. Graham is author of the SAFEGROUNDS risk assessment paper. Chris will then present the views of the Low Level Radiation Campaign. His presentation will be set in the context of the Committee Examining Radiation Risks of Internal Emitters (CERRIE), the 2006 Department of Health Radiation Protection Research Strategy and the recognition by various authorities that inhomogeneity of dose is potentially important. Chris is Scientific Secretary of the European Committee on Radiation Risk and a member of MoD's Depleted Uranium Oversight Board. He was a member of CERRIE.

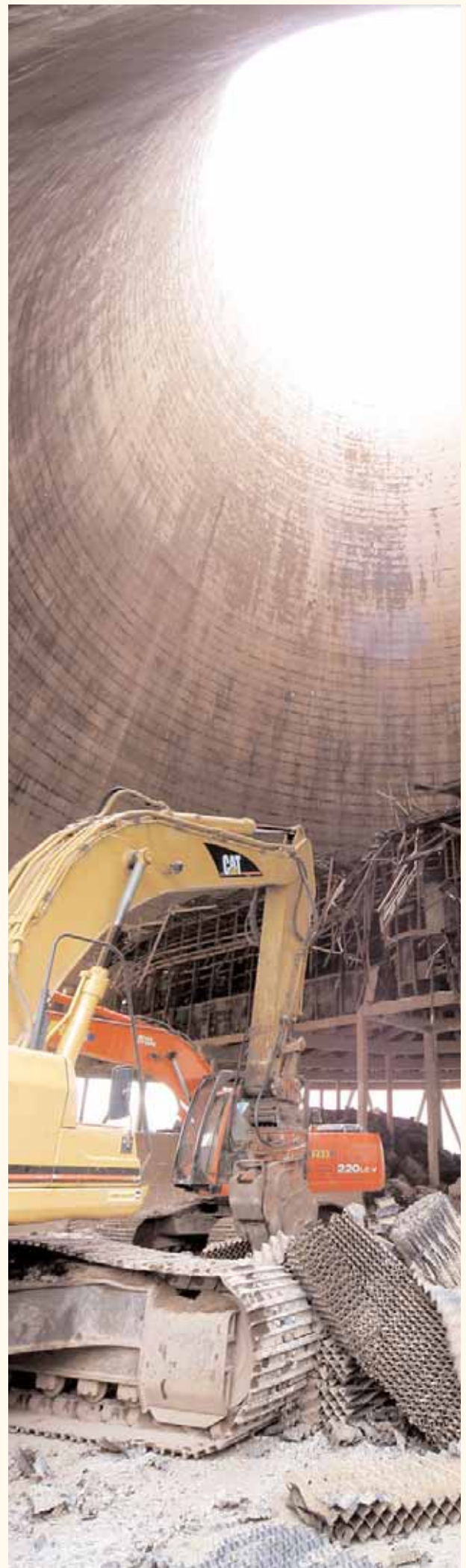
16:45 Chairman's summary

17:00 Close of day I

19:00 **Conference dinner**

Dinner talk: The benefits of building long-term relationships with stakeholders

Professor Gordon MacKerron, *Chairman of the Committee on Radioactive Waste Management (CoRWM) and Director, Sussex Energy Group, SPRU (Science and Technology Policy Research), University of Sussex.*



**Early booking discount: 15% off conference fees if you book your place by 12 February 2007**

## Day 2 Programme

- 09.20 Registration, refreshments and exhibition
- 09:50 **Chairman's introduction**  
Bob Mathews, *Head of Consulting, NUKEM Ltd*
- 10:00 **The theory and practice of sustainable management of decommissioning wastes**  
Mark Bentley, *SD:SPUR Project Manager, CIRIA*  
Neil Shaw, *Engineering Standards Manager, Low Level Waste Repository, British Nuclear Group Sellafield Limited.*  
Paul Dorfman, *Research Fellow, Centre for Involvement, University of Warwick*  
Mark will introduce work undertaken by SD:SPUR on practical approaches to the sustainable management of decommissioning wastes. Neil will then draw on his experiences of waste management, including his new role at the low level waste repository in Cumbria, to reflect on the optimisation of waste management options. Paul will consider the role of stakeholder involvement in this context, drawing on his experience in the field of radiation risk.
- 10:40 **The latest developments in the policy and regulatory framework for the management of decommissioning wastes**  
Marion Hill, *Independent consultant and author of the SD:SPUR regulatory framework paper*  
Dr Robert Jackson, *Head of Policy Development Unit, Radioactive Substances Division, Defra*  
Marion will provide an overview of the regulatory framework for the management of decommissioning wastes. She will draw on her recent experience in developing the regulatory framework paper to explore areas of uncertainty. Robert will then provide an update on the UK low level waste policy review.
- 11:10 Discussion session with panel of speakers
- 11:30 Refreshments and exhibition

- 12:00 **Cultures of good practice**  
Jack Williamson, *Deputy Head of EH&S, British Nuclear Group Sellafield Limited*  
Safety cultures are already embedded in site management. Discussions are now required on how we further promote environmental protection and stakeholder engagement cultures to support the practical implementation of good practice approaches. Jack will draw on his experience at British Nuclear Group to initiate discussions on this topic.
- 12:20 **The market and the supply chain**  
Mark Hannan, *Independent consultant, N-Ovation Ltd*  
Mark has helped drive the development of the SAFESPUR Forum. He will share lessons from the forum, looking particularly at the needs for an appropriate supply chain in addressing current market requirements.
- 12:40 Discussion session with panel of speakers
- 13:00 Lunch and exhibition



14:20 **Workshops**

**Workshop D:**

**Good practice tools for waste management**

Mark Bentley, *SD:SPUR Project Manager, CIRIA*

David Owen, *Chairman of the Clearance & Exemptions Working Group*

John Barritt, *Aggregates Technical Advisor, Waste & Resources Action Programme (WRAP)*

This workshop will explore the linkages between the various protocols, codes of practice, policy initiatives and other good practice tools that can be used to assist in the development and delivery of integrated waste strategies.

**Workshop E:**

**The waste hierarchy – opportunities and risks**

Peter Guthrie, *Professor of Engineering for Sustainable Development, University of Cambridge*

Bill Miller, *Commercial Director, Enviro Consulting Ltd*

Richard Bramhall, *Secretary, Low Level Radiation Campaign*

The waste hierarchy is now established in industry. Its application in the nuclear context is promoted by policy, regulatory and good practice bodies, but is this approach as straightforward as we might think? How do we ensure the correct interpretation of the hierarchy and drive appropriate behaviour?

**Workshop F:**

**Latest experience from two key sites**

Steve Oldfield, *Head of Characterisation & Clearance, British Nuclear Group Sellafield Limited*

Paul McClelland, *Head of Waste Management UKAEA, Dounreay*

This workshop will provide an update on progress with work at Sellafield and Dounreay to embed robust procedures for the management of assets and decommissioning wastes. It will explore: the application of new technology; engagement with the supply chain; characterisation and record-keeping; sorting and segregation approaches; and co-ordination between different site teams.

15:20 **Plenary session**

Delegates will share the key points arising from their workshops, followed by a short discussion and question and answer session.

15:50 **Chairman's summary**

16:00 **Close of day 2**

**SAFEGROUNDS**

The SAFEGROUNDS Learning Network is a forum for developing and disseminating



good practice guidance for the management of radioactively and chemically contaminated land on nuclear and defence sites. The network has grown out of participatory research methods developed over the past eight years. The guidance being produced by SAFEGROUNDS is relevant to the UK's 20 nuclear sites and the 240 000 hectares of land under MoD ownership. [www.safegrounds.com](http://www.safegrounds.com)

**SD:SPUR**

Adopting the general SAFEGROUNDS approach, its sister project, the SD:SPUR Learning Network has worked



with a similar composition of stakeholders since 2004. The network develops and disseminates good practice guidance on the sustainable management of assets and decommissioning wastes arising from nuclear and defence sites. [www.sdspur.com](http://www.sdspur.com)

**SAFESPUR**

In 2006 CIRIA launched the SAFESPUR forum to respond to demands from the supply chain for closer links with the SAFEGROUNDS and SD:SPUR Learning Networks. The forum provides a mechanism to promote good practice in the nuclear and defence supply chains. [www.safespur.com](http://www.safespur.com)



The NDA is a non-departmental public body. It was set up in April 2005, under the Energy Act 2004, to take strategic responsibility for the UK's nuclear legacy.

The NDA's core objective is to ensure that the 20 civil public sector nuclear sites under their ownership are decommissioned and cleaned up safely, securely, cost effectively and in ways that protect the environment for this and future generations. The NDA is leading the development of a unified and coherent decommissioning strategy, working in partnership with regulators and site licensees to achieve; highest environmental standards, best value and optimum impact on local communities.

The NDA supports the work of the SAFEGROUNDS and SD:SPUR Learning Networks.

To find out more about the NDA visit [www.nda.gov.uk](http://www.nda.gov.uk)

