

Session 31B

Panel: Opportunities in the UK with the Nuclear Decommissioning Authority (NDA)

Panel Reporter: Gary Benda

Panelists: David Hayes, Director of Special Projects
Ron Gorham, Head of Procurement
Mark Wareing, Decommissioning
Adrian Simper, Expenditure and Programme Strategy Manager
Terry Selby, Strategy Director

The NDA participated in a panel session 31B on Wednesday afternoon starting at 3:15. The NDA is a non-departmental public body, set up in April 2005 under the Energy Act 2004 to take strategic responsibility for the UK's nuclear legacy. Details of their organization and history are located on their web site at www.nda.gov.uk. Also copies of their PowerPoint presentations made at WM06 are available on their web site.

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

The NDA's main task is the decommissioning and clean up of civil nuclear sites. If the Government decides it is necessary, however, the Energy Act 2004 allows the NDA to take responsibility for sites currently operated by, or on behalf of, the Ministry of Defence (MoD). Resources will then be transferred from the MoD to meet the costs of clean up.

The NDA made a number of presentations to allow conference delegates the opportunity to understand some of the major aspects of their work and to interact with NDA staff. These included the following topics and gave opportunity for audience discussion:

- A brief presentation to update on progress by the NDA
- Outline of low level waste management and the prioritisation process
- Discussion of the competition schedule related to low level waste management and the Drigg site

The following presentations and handout were delivered in various sessions of the conference as noted below and are available on their web page including the WM06 Plenary Session presentation by Sir Anthony Cleaver, Chairman of the NDA

During Session 31B, the following PowerPoint presentations were made.

NDA Overview by David Hayes, Director of Special Projects

National M&O Contractor Work Prioritisation Process by Mark Wareing, including topics on:

- Need for prioritisation
- Development of the process
- Using the process as a measure of progress

Competition by Ron Gorham, Head of Procurement, including topics on:

- The current model
- What NDA are actually competing
- The acquisition process
- NDA aspirations for competition
- NDA aspirations from the market

Low Level Waste Contracting in the UK by Adrian Simper, Expenditure and Programme Strategy Manager, including topics on:

- Low Level Waste
 - NDA responsibilities
 - Definitions
 - Arisings
- Proposed NDA Procurement for LLW Management
 - Scope
 - Contracting approach
 - Timetable

The NDA responded to questions from the audience and also announced that the NDA will be holding a special Industry Day for potential contractors interested in the first NDA competition - the Low Level Waste Repository near Drigg in Cumbria. The event is scheduled on the 25-26 April 2006 with more details on their web site at www.nda.gov.uk.