

## NEPLG ACTION TRACKING PAPER – 12 NOVEMBER 2007

### 1. Purpose

This paper identifies progress on actions which have been placed on NEPLG for resolution as a result of Level 2 and 3 exercises.

The paper also tracks the progress of recommendations made by the NEPLG Lessons Learned Sub-Group (LLSG) in its paper on the annual review of Level 2 & 3 exercises. The recommendations, which can be found at Annex 1, are made as a result of issues raised in exercise reports and comments made at debriefing meetings after exercises. They also take into account the lessons of MoD exercises.

### 2. Overview

Of the 21 current actions, 8 actions are less than a year old, 6 are 1-2 years old, 5 are 2-3 years old and 2 more than 3 years old. The table below provides details.

Actions 3.01, 4.08, 5.13, 7.15 and 9.02 are new actions.

Actions 4.07, 7.12, 7.13 and 7.14 are now closed following the meeting of the Ad Hoc Media Sub Group.

### 3. Table showing the age of current actions

< 12 Months		13 – 24 Months		25 – 36 Months		> 37 Months	
Action Ref	Responsible	Action Ref	Responsible	Action Ref	Responsible	Action Ref	Responsible
3.01	NEPLG	1.02	PRSG	5.10	DH/HPA	6.14	PRSG
				6.15	PRSG	9.01	DH
4.07	MSG	4.06	ACPO/ASA/ CFOA	6.16	ACPO/ASA/CF OA		
4.08	NEPLG						
5.11	MOD/GONW	4.07	MSG	6.17	HPA-RPD		
5.12	DEFRA/ PRSG	7.12	MSG/ACPO/A	6.18	HPS-RPD		
5.13	NEPLG		CPO(S)				
7.15	BERR	7.13	MSG				
9.02	NEPLG	7.14	MSG				

#### 4. Table of current actions

Area for Improvement	Mentioned In Exercise	Response/Action	Progress/Completion	Responsible Organisation
<p><b>1. Notification.</b></p> <p><b>1.02</b> Alerting of several Central Government agencies was complicated and time consuming and there were some problems with 'sub-alerting' – i.e. agencies further down the alerting cascade failing to contact partner agencies.</p>	<p>Sellafield 'OSCAR 8' 03/10/2006</p>	<p>NEPLG to review Central Government alerting procedures.</p>	<p>Ongoing. NEPLG to conduct a review of Central Government alerting procedures. The review to be held under PRSG auspices.</p>	<p>PRSG.</p>
<p><b>2. Set up of facility.</b></p> <p><i>No outstanding issues.</i></p>				
<p><b>3. Supply of information to OSF.</b></p> <p><b>3.01</b> Some differences of opinion on the technical aspects were highlighted. Use of the HAT/STAC outside Gold meetings would overcome this.</p>	<p>Sizewell A 'ARAGON' 07/03/2007</p>	<p>Refer to NEPLG</p>	<p>A new issue</p>	<p>NEPLG</p>
<p><b>4. Interpretation of information.</b></p> <p><b>4.06</b> Police responded within the sheltering zone using face masks, despite this being contrary to current Police policy concerning emergency exposure levels.</p>	<p>Sellafield 'OSCAR 8' 03/10/2006</p>	<p>The police policy and position on this issue is clear.</p>	<p>Closed. The following police policy is now in place: "The police service should not seek to deploy police officers into a situation where they are likely to receive increased levels of radiation unless and until a dynamic risk assessment has been undertaken at the time using the best available advice and this deployment must be done with the full agreement of the officer who has had all the risks explained to him/her".</p> <p>Work on formulating ASA and Fire Service policy is ongoing and is being tracked under Action 6.16.</p>	<p>ASA, Fire Service, ACPO.</p>

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<p><b>4.07</b> BE was asked to provide a definition of risk from a radiological release.</p>	<p>Dungeness B 'GANGES' 27/09/2006</p>	<p>Improve communication of risk from a radiological release for public information and reassurance including initial responders.</p>	<p>The new Ad Hoc Media Sub Group will now be dealing with this issue.</p>	<p>Media Sub-Group.</p>
<p><b>4.08</b></p>	<p>Hinkley Point 'A' 'BRITTANY' 28/02/2007</p>	<p>To review the roles and responsibilities of SCC attendees.</p>	<p>A new issue.</p>	<p>NEPLG</p>
<p><b>5. Information exchanges and teamworking.</b></p> <p><b>5.10</b> Once the HPA and GTA agencies arrived, the local team became almost redundant. A view is sought as to whether the combined national and local level agencies are what forms the HAT / JHAC, or whether the local agencies are better placed at Health "Silver"? The Gold team could then comprise CEO and tactical advisor, media lead, HPA and GTA.</p> <p><b>5.11</b> FSA were represented by GONW. Concern was expressed that GONW reps were unsure of their role regarding the interpretation and knowledge of FSA issues. However GONW stressed that their role in this situation was one of liaison rather than representation</p> <p><b>5.12</b> SVS the State Veterinary Service (agency of DEFRA) worked alongside GONW FSA representatives. Both agencies are of the view that SVS strategic representation is required at SCG to provide advice on animal health issues and to provide a link back to the SVS operations centre and the relevant parts of DEFRA</p>	<p>Sizewell B 'DANUBE' 28/09/2005</p> <p>Springfields 'HERON 3' 29/11/2006</p> <p>Springfields 'HERON 3' 29/11/2006</p>	<p>The interface between the local CCDC/DPH and the HPA radiological advisor and GTA may benefit from a review to define who leads.</p> <p>EPCC and NEPLG to review</p> <p>EPCC to review at a County Level</p> <p>NEPLG to review nationally</p>	<p>Ongoing. HPA to work with DH to resolve this issue. The GTA/Health interface needs further scrutiny; this will be considered in the light of the lessons of exercise Frome, and may involve training at a local level.</p> <p>Ongoing. MOD has agreed to host a meeting to clarify the role of Government Office in respect of all Government departments.</p> <p>A new issue for consideration by PRSG.</p>	<p>Department of Health/HPA.</p> <p>MOD/GONW</p> <p>PRSG/DEFRA</p>

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<p>nationally.</p> <p>Further work required with DEFRA to ensure that DEFRA functions are adequately represented.</p> <p><b>5.13</b> More clarity is needed on the role of the HAT in co-ordinating health advice for Gold. Is it the sole route through which advice is channelled, or do all HAT members sit at the GOLD table?</p>	<p>Sizewell A 'ARAGON' 07/03/2007</p>	<p>Refer to NEPLG</p>	<p>A new issue. As 3.01.</p>	<p>NEPLG</p>
<p><b>6. Strategic decision making.</b></p> <p><b>6.14</b> Health representation at Gold meetings should be reviewed due to recent changes within health organisational structures.</p> <p><b>6.15</b> Clarification as to who Chairs and makes up the JHAG is required.</p> <p><b>6.16</b> An issue that arose was the training/briefing/background that the Emergency Services have on appreciating and balancing the risk to their own employees in implementing off-site countermeasures and the consequent benefit to the public and others from taking the measures.</p> <p><i>Police:</i></p> <p>The Police understandably wanted to make sure that before deployment of their own employees to protect the public, they were not putting themselves at an unacceptable or</p>	<p>Hartlepool 'ZODIAC' 07/07/2004</p> <p>Dungeness A 'UNICORN' 08/03/2005</p> <p>Dungeness A 'UNICORN' 08/03/2005</p>	<p>Arrangements for setting up a HAG/JHAG are currently under review at national level – NEPLG</p> <p>This is a Public Health issue which will be placed with the HPA until the issue is resolved. NEPLG to discuss.</p> <p>NEPLG to readdress the issue of the concerns of the Emergency Services when deploying staff in order to implement off-site countermeasures.</p> <p>It is noted that the speed of obtaining data is critical to delivering a risk assessment to enable the speedy and effective</p>	<p>Ongoing. PRSG to review in the light of STAC Guidance.</p> <p>Ongoing. As 6.14.</p> <p>Ongoing in respect of ASA and Fire Service. The radiation strategy group is moving forward with regards to work practices in the Hot zone. Legal advice is being sought on this matter.</p> <p>Closed in respect of ACPO. The following police policy is now in place: "The police service should not seek to deploy police officers into a situation where they are likely to receive increased levels of radiation unless and until a dynamic risk assessment has been undertaken at the time using the best available advice and this deployment</p>	<p>PRSG.</p> <p>PRSG.</p> <p>ASA, Fire Service.</p>

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<p>disproportionate risk. It took some time to come to a decision and it was noted at the hot debrief that a decision would not have been made without umpire pressure.</p> <p><i>Police, Fire, Ambulance:</i></p> <p>This is a known issue that has been visited previously with NEPLG's sphere and clearly the fact this is now raised again would suggest it should be revisited.</p> <p><b>6.17</b> Agencies appeared reluctant to take responsibility for dealing with 18 (probably contaminated) fatalities in the exercise scenario. Accordingly this issue should be considered further within the Health sphere and is recommended for consideration at NEPLG's Lesson Learned Sub Group.</p> <p><b>6.18</b> The national problem of dealing with contaminated bodies was raised but not resolved.</p>	<p>Dungeness A 'UNICORN' 08/03/2005</p> <p>Bradwell 'VESTA' 07/09/2005</p>	<p>deployment of police staff.</p> <p>The police position on exposure levels for police officers is clear.</p> <p>HPA Radiation Protection Division are currently working on a Generic Plan to cover this, which is expected to be completed in 2006. NEPLG in liaison with Health representation (HPA Radiation Protection Division) to discuss further.</p> <p>As 6.17</p>	<p>must be done with the full agreement of the officer who has had all the risks explained to him/her".</p> <p>Ongoing. NEPLG are requested to note that work is ongoing on this subject. It is being taken forward by an NEPLG member organisation.</p> <p>Ongoing. As 6.17</p>	<p>HPA – RPD.</p> <p>HPA – RPD.</p>
<p><b>7. Communication and public information.</b></p> <p><b>7.12</b> At media briefings there did not appear to be one person or organisation who was in control of updating the countermeasure advice to the public.</p>	<p>Hinkley Point B 'FROME' 19/01/2006</p>	<p>Consideration to be given to requesting Government News Network to provide an administration and management role of the Media Briefing Centre with the Police remaining responsible for the management and co-ordination of the media statements. Any outcome to be documented within the Generic Media Plan.</p>	<p>The new Ad Hoc Media Sub Group will now be dealing with this issue.</p>	<p>Media Sub-Group, ACPO, ACPOS.</p>

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<p><b>7.13</b> Significant time for approval of press releases, up to 2hrs</p> <p><b>7.14</b> It would be useful to have a set of standard phrases that would be used following different types of incident. This should include putting into context the risk associated with any residual contamination (as perhaps set out in the RIFE report produced by FSA/EA/SEPA) and precautions to be taken.</p> <p><b>7.15</b> Facilities at the SCC caused communication difficulties in the early stages between the SCC and the NEBR, with no fax machine or desktop computer available to the GLO, it was difficult to send and receive briefing material for ministers.</p>	<p>Harwell 'URSULA' 08/06/2006</p> <p>Harwell 'URSULA' 08/06/2006</p> <p>Sizewell A 'ARAGON' 07/03/2007</p>	<p>This is too long for approval of press releases, a process should be established so that any press release within the overall media strategy can be released quickly.</p> <p>GLO to advise what is needed so that it can either be installed or brought with them as appropriate.</p>	<p>The new Ad Hoc Media Sub Group will now be dealing with this issue.</p> <p>The new Ad Hoc Media Sub Group will now be dealing with this issue.</p> <p>A new issue. BERR are currently in the process of purchasing a laptop for the GLO's use at the SCC.</p>	<p>Media Sub-Group.</p> <p>Media Sub-Group.</p> <p>BERR</p>
<p><b>8. Facilities and equipment.</b></p> <p><i>No outstanding issues.</i></p>				
<p><b>9. Participants.</b></p> <p><b>9.01</b> Although no fixed agenda for the JHAC was available, the Chairman covered all areas thoroughly.</p> <p><b>9.02</b> Needs to be a better understanding of the GOSW role. GOSW assume the role of the lead (or other) Government Departments.</p>	<p>Oldbury 'SUMMER' 17/11/2004</p> <p>Hinkley Point 'A' 'BRITTANY'</p>	<p>NEPLG to consider a national JHAC Agenda template.</p> <p>NEPLG to review the role of the Government Offices of the regions in the event of an Off-Site Nuclear</p>	<p>Ongoing. As 6.14.</p> <p>A new issue.</p>	<p>Department of Health.</p> <p>NEPLG</p>

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The ability to act on behalf of several other Departments effectively however, is limited.	28/02/2007	Emergency		

**Recommendations from the Lessons Learned Sub Group arising from Level 2 and 3 Exercises.**

<b>Recommendation</b>	<b>Progress/Completion</b>	<b>Source Document</b>	<b>Related Actions</b>
<b>03.06</b> NEPLG to consider, via remittance to the Media sub-group the preparation of a pre-prepared press statement that would cover the period prior to establishment of an operational OSF/LEC.	Ongoing. NEPLG endorsed recommendation – 4 July 2006. The new Media Sub-Group will ensure these issues are co-ordinated with the new Media Plan.	NEPLG (LL) (06)	7.11
<b>04.06</b> NEPLG to consider, via remittance to the Media sub-group as appropriate, development of a formal role for the Government News Network (GNN) in MBC administration and management.	Ongoing. As Recommendation 03.06	NEPLG (LL) (06)	7.12
<b>05.06</b> NEPLG to consider, via remittance to the Media sub-group the co-ordination of media statements at national and local level such as those affecting food countermeasures.	Ongoing. To be tested following publication of the new media plan.	NEPLG (LL) (06)	4.05
<b>01.07</b> NEPLG to conduct a review of Central Government alerting procedures. The review to be held under PRSG auspices.	NEPLG endorsed recommendation – 12 July 2007.	NEPLG (LL) (07)	1.02
<b>02.07</b> NEPLG under PRSG auspices to consider and, if practical, produce a protocol for interface between organisations prior to SCC establishment.	As Recommendation 01.07	NEPLG (LL) (07)	From Exercise Hudson
<b>03.07</b> NEPLG to note and endorse the work and outputs of the ARSG in respect of ambulance services.	As Recommendation 01.07	NEPLG (LL) (07)	4.06
<b>04.07</b> NEPLG to support remittance to PRSG auspices the co-ordination of the policy issue of police national exposure levels, jointly with ACPO and ACPO(s).	As Recommendation 01.07	NEPLG (LL) (07)	4.06
<b>05.07</b> NEPLG to support the production of pre-prepared public and responding agency messages regarding radiological risk including scope of food countermeasures. PRSG to lead in association with Media Sub-Group.	As Recommendation 01.07	NEPLG (LL) (07)	4.07

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<b>06.07</b> NEPLG to consider appropriate level of GORs support in SCCs. To be managed by PRSG.	As Recommendation 01.07	NEPLG (LL) (07)	5.11
<b>07.07</b> NEPLG to consider whether Animal Health should be represented in their own right at Strategic Co-ordination Group level. To be managed by PRSG.	As Recommendation 01.07	NEPLG (LL) (07)	5.12