

## Minutes

### NIRAB first meeting

10<sup>th</sup> April 2018, 11:00-16:00

The Royal Academy of Engineering, London

#### Attendees:

**MEMBERS** (Members' organisations included for reference, Membership of NIRAB is by personal appointment, members are not representing their respective organisations on the board)

Mike Tynan	Chair		
Tim Abram	University of Manchester	Frances Livens	University of Manchester
David Boath	Wood Group	James Marrow	University of Oxford
Stuart Broadley	Energy Industries Council	Bob McKenzie	Springfield Fuels Ltd.
Jonathan Brown	Cammell Laird	Mike Middleton	Energy Systems Catapult
Maggie Brown	EDF Energy	John Molyneux	Rolls-Royce
Paul Brown	KBR	Chris Moore	Independent
Grace Burke	University of Manchester	Martin O'Brien (on behalf of Ian Chapman)	UKAEA
Gregg Butler	IDM solutions	Manus O'Donnell	EDF Energy
Stephen Garwood	Imperial College	Andrew Randewich	AWE
Kirsty Gogan	Energy for Humanity	Eugene Schwageraus	University of Cambridge
Neil Hyatt	University of Sheffield	Tom Scott	University of Bristol
Monica Jong	UKAEA	Andrew Sherry	NNL
Malcolm Joyce	University of Lancaster	Stephen Smith	Algometrics
Ralf Kaiser	University of Glasgow	Andy Storer	NAMRC
Miranda Kirschel	Ernest and Young	Ashley Townes	Westinghouse
Mike Lewis	Horizon	Chris White	Urenco
Phil Litherland	Context Information Security	Paul Woollin	TWI

#### OBSERVERS

Derek Allen	Innovate UK	Henry Green	GO Science
Melanie Brownridge	NDA	Victoria Mico Egea	RCUK (EPSRC)

**OFFICIALS**

Greg Ashurst	BEIS	Malwina Gradecka	BEIS
Damitha Adikaari	BEIS	Helena Hayman	BEIS
Si Dilks	BEIS	Craig Lucas	BEIS
Nicholas Fidoe	BEIS	Claire Murray	BEIS
Jack Gillons	BEIS		

**SECRETARIAT**

Gordon Bryan	NIRO	Paul Nevitt	NIRO
Bart De Leeuw	NIRO	Fiona Rayment	NIRO
Andrew Howarth	NIRO	Dan Wolff	NIRO
Dan Mathers	NIRO		

**Apologies:**

**MEMBERS**

Ian Chapman	UKAEA
Mamdouh El-Shanawany	Lloyds register
Hector Iacovedes	University of Manchester
Lee Peck	Sellafield Ltd

**OBSERVERS**

Robin Grimes	CSA (Nuclear) MoD
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## Agenda Item 1 – Welcome and Introductions

The Chair welcomed members and observers for the inaugural meeting of the new NIRAB.

## Agenda Item 2 – Government Introduction

The department for Business, Energy & Industrial Strategy (BEIS) presented an overview of Government strategy for nuclear, referencing key government publications including the industrial strategy and the clean growth strategy, providing the context in which NIRAB will be working and went on to provide their expectations for the work of NIRAB.

## Agenda Item 3 – Terms of Reference

The proposed terms of reference (NIRAB-151-1) were tabled for discussion. A number of useful points were raised; NIRO were tasked with compiling these points and reporting them back to the membership in order to determine whether any changes to the terms of reference are required.

**Action 1.1: NIRO to compile comments on terms of reference and circulate by 30/4/18.**

## Agenda Item 4 – Nuclear research and innovation landscape

Dame Sue Ion (Chair of the original NIRAB) briefly joined the meeting as a guest and addressed the meeting. She emphasised the important role that NIRO play in supporting the work of NIRAB. She highlighted the need for a unified government approach that underpins energy policy in order to build and maintain UK nuclear skills and capacity. She also pointed to the importance of coordinated programmes to deliver tangible results particularly for Advanced Modular Reactors (AMRs). She wished the reconvened NIRAB well.

The Engineering & Physical Sciences Research Council (EPSRC), Innovate UK and the Nuclear Decommissioning Authority (NDA) each presented on the nuclear research and innovation landscape from the perspective of their respective organisations. A common theme was the importance of integration between the different funding agencies to avoid duplication and deliver value for money.

## Agenda Item 5 – Discussion of priorities and gaps

NIRO introduced the discussion by presenting the high level questions that government are looking to NIRAB to answer.

There was a wide ranging and useful discussion of what should be considered by NIRAB in order to provide the required guidance to government; NIRO were tasked with compiling the themes from the discussion in order to identify the initial priorities for the work of NIRAB, and report this back to the membership.

**Action 1.2: NIRO to compile discussion points into initial NIRAB priorities and circulate by 30/4/18.**

## Agenda Item 6 – Next Steps

The Chair outlined that, themed working groups will be convened covering the areas identified in the discussion, incorporating post meeting feedback, to determine key priorities and issues. Working group leaders will be appointed, and dates over the summer for working groups to meet will be agreed.

**Action 1.3: Upon circulation of working group details, members to indicate which groups they wish to participate in.**

### Agenda Item 7 – AOB

It was noted that a map of the UK Nuclear supply chain, showing what we have and where there are gaps would be useful. The Chair commented that the Nuclear Industry Association (NIA) may have one.

A request was made to share some potentially useful government reports on nuclear.

**Action 1.4: BEIS to investigate whether redacted version of reports can be created to share before the next NIRAB meeting.**