

## NIRAB Meeting

Thursday 6<sup>th</sup> June 2024, 13.00-14.30.

Virtually on MS Teams

### Attendees

NIRAB Members: Francis Livens (Chair), Gordon Bryan, John Stairmand, Allyson Armet, Edoardo Patelli, Kirsty Armer, Maggie Brown, Fiona Rayment, Gregg Butler, Alun Ellis

DESENZ: Si Dilks, Ian Johnson,

NIRO: Dan Mathers, Liv Thompson, Matthew Bingham, Adeola Warner,

Regulators: Ian Streatfield

### Minutes

- Introduction and Welcome
  - All actions from previous meetings now complete.
  - All diary/calendar invitations for future meetings should be deleted from diaries. New invitations will be sent out for the next meeting.
  - The Chair thanked Simon Franklin for his contributions to NIRAB 3.
- Update from NIRO
  - An overview of the main pieces of work NIRO is working on.
  - Much of current NIRO work is relevant to the HTGR report, may be beneficial to provide links to the works of the NEA, Nuclear Development Committee and GIF on the NIRAB website.
  - Dan, Fiona and Francis are speaking at the Royal Society UK/France Conference in July, where it would be useful for the NIRAB HTGR report to be presented/ promoted.
- Update from Regulators
  - Due to the pre-election period regulators provided a limited update.
  - Work on DESNZ funded projects/programmes continues.
  - DESNZ International Team will be hosting a co-generation and innovation event at the IAEA General Conference which the regulators will support.
- Update from Department of Energy Security and Net Zero
  - DESNZ explained the conditions imposed by the pre-election period rules.
  - It is advised that NIRAB refrains from publishing work until post-election.
  - Agreed it would be good to have the HTGR report published before the 23<sup>rd</sup> July – the 18<sup>th</sup> July being the ideal day for publishing, on the assumption that a government has been elected in.
  - DESNZ is pulling together points on what is needed for second Nuclear Innovation Call.
  - Currently unknown whether there will be a 1 year or multiple year Spending Review.



- Update on NIRAB Report
  - The HTGR report and appendix are complete and ready to publish, they will be available as digital documents on the NIRAB website.
  - Anyone who wants a printed version of the report should contact Liv.
  - To help disseminate the report a series of 'lunch & learns' will be held for DESNZ, regulators, and others within academia and industry who have helped inform the report.
  - A summary article is to be published in an industry magazine.
  - Reports produced with the intent to inform the HTGR report will be published after NIRO's checks and approvals.
- Forward look at NIRAB III term
  - There is consensus within the team that there is value in NIRAB operating post-publication of the HTGR report.
  - Activities surrounding the report will continue up to September/October, after which NIRAB will be available to look at other short projects.
  - At the end of its term NIRAB III will publish a summary report of its work.
  - Suggestions on what NIRAB can work on next are discussed.
  - After the HTGR report knowledge sharing sessions, another meeting will be organised to discuss how the report has landed with stakeholders and to discuss the final message NIRAB III would like to leave.

