

NIRAB Meeting

Thursday 8th December 2022, 10:00-16:00.

Manchester University and virtual on MS Teams

Attendees- full list of attendees given in appendix 1.

NIRAB Members: Francis Livens (Chair), Gordon Bryan, Gregg Butler, Alun Ellis, Edoardo Patelli, Fiona Rayment, John Stairmand, Allyson Armet, Malcolm Joyce, Amanda Quadling

BEIS: Michael Armstrong, Ian Johnson, Clare Bayley

NIRO: Dan Mathers, Liv Thompson (Secretary), Simon Franklin, Steve Napier, Greg Evans, Greg Black, Sasha Davies, Martin Townsend, Jeff Holliday, David Graham, Lucy Platts,

Observers: Jane Nicholson (EPSRC), Ian Streatfield (EA); David Smeatham (ONR),

Apologies: Matthew Billson (BEIS), Paul Monks (BEIS CSA)

Guest Speaker: Juan Matthews (University of Manchester) and Allan Simpson (NNL)

Minutes

1. Chair Update: Professor Francis Livens

- The Chair reported back on a meeting with Damitha Adikaari and Paul Monks
- Minutes from NIRAB plenary of 09/2022 agreed without alteration

2. Update from BEIS

A number of calls will be announced imminently including:

- Competition for Phase B of AMR RD&D
- Medical radioisotopes
- Nuclear Fuel Fund

Great British Nuclear – a body announced in energy security strategy are working in collaboration with industry, (industry reps within GBN), announcement due in early new year for future of GBN

3. Update from Regulators

- Regulators are looking at ways to enable innovation and artificial intelligence to reduce cost and time to deployment of new reactors.
- Environment Agency have an approach to innovation developed and published through a regulatory statement (published 2022),
- ONR have a strategy (2020- 2025) and an innovation hub which has an external focus.



4. Update from EPSRC

New call from EPSRC for next cohort of CDT's was launched in November. Details can be found here:

<https://www.ukri.org/opportunity/epsrc-centres-for-doctoral-training/>

5. Update from NIRO

An overview of some of the key activities NIRO are working on was given.

Liv Thompson has recently joined the NIRO team and will be the NIRAB point of contact.

6. Guest Speaker

Use of HTGR's, impact on technology choices and costs (Dr Juan Matthews- University of Manchester)

7. Working Group Updates

The NIRAB Delivery, Use Case, and Technology leads provided an update on working group activities.

8. AOB

Next meeting:

- Monthly working group meetings continue.
- NIRAB plenary Thursday 9th March in London

