

## **DSRL and competition for its parent body**

### **History**

The site was operated during the 20<sup>th</sup> century by the UK Atomic Energy Authority. Shutdown saw ownership transfer in 2005 to the Nuclear Decommissioning Authority, a new public body. Its purpose is to reduce the cost and timescale of decommissioning through competition.

### **Site licence company**

Dounreay Site Restoration Ltd was established in 2008 to enable competition to happen. It took on the core site workforce, regulatory controls such as the site licence and waste disposal authorisation, and contracts. Privatisation in 2009 saw DSRL become part of the Babcock International Group.

### **Competition**

The NDA competition for Dounreay started in 2009. The successful bidder will formally acquire DSRL on April 2, 2012, and deliver its plan to complete the site closure through its new subsidiary.

The new parent body will second personnel to a small number of management positions in DSRL. Currently, eight positions, including the chair of the board of DSRL, are occupied by secondees.

The NDA pays fees to DSRL when it meets performance-based incentives. These are focused on hazard reduction. The fees are shared by DSRL between its shareholder and the workforce.

### **The closure programme**

The first site closure plan published in 2000 forecast a completion date of 2063 at a total cost of £4.3bn. By 2008, this had accelerated to 2025 and a cost of £2.6bn, with annual spend peaking at £200m or so in 2015.

Since 2005, some 200 facilities have been demolished at a rate of almost 100sq ft every day.

In 2010, funding was capped by the NDA at £150 million a year. This is the budget upon which bids were invited.

DSRL adjusted its existing closure plan meantime, pushing out some work to the period 2025-38 to comply with the new annual funding limit, while the competition took place for a new site closure plan.

Controls are expected to remain in place at the site for up to 300 years beyond decommissioning while radioactivity levels decay.

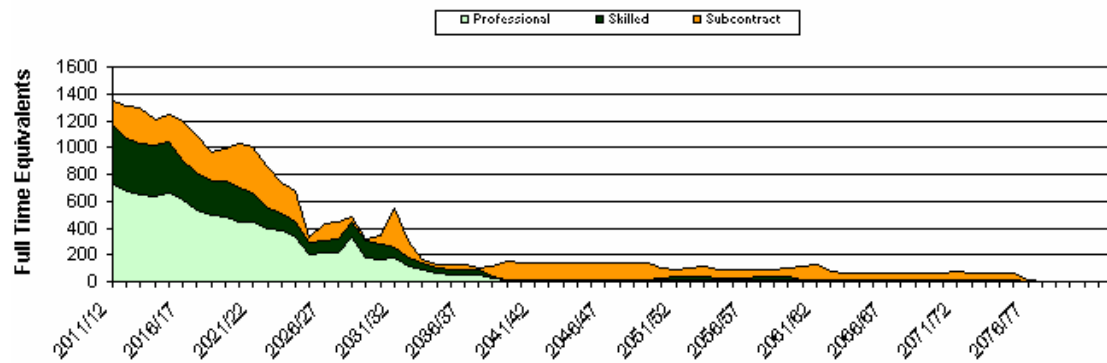
### Major hazards

The site closure plan is prioritised to reducing or eliminating the major radiological and chemical hazards. These include the liquid metals used as reactor coolant until 1994 and liquors from the reprocessing of spent nuclear fuel until 1996.

### The workforce

DSRL employs 876 people. A similar number work for sub-contractors, regulators, police etc.

Staffing profile curve against time and key phases



DSRL Existing Skills - August 2011 - by percentage

