**CM9 Record Ref.:** 2022/21180

**Chief Nuclear Inspector 13th Independent Advisory Panel**

**Summary of Panel Advice**

**held at 10:00AM on Friday 1 April 2022**

**Virtual Meeting**

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| **Present:**  Mark Foy (chair)  Dame Sue Ion  Jill Sutcliffe  John May  Jo Nettleton  Francis Livens  Robin Grimes  Tim Abram  Peter Burt  Paul Bowen | **In Attendance:**  Alexandra Edey  Andria Gilmour  Ben Matthews  David Smeatham  Donald Urquhart  Rachel Curtis  Paul Garesse |
| **Secretariat:**  Paul Garesse | **Apologies:**  David Lowry  Fiona Rayment  Sarah Williamson |

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|  | **Supporting information circulated before meeting** |
|  | 2022/21176 - Meeting Agenda |
|  | 2022/21178 - Collated Presentations |
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| **1** | **Welcome and Introductions** |
|  | This record captures advice given on topics presented at the Chief Nuclear Inspector’s (CNI) 13th Independent Advisory Panel (IAP). The objectives of the meeting were: |
|  | 1. To provide a forum in which experts representing a variety of technical perspectives may provide independent advice to inform ONR’s proposals for development of regulatory policies and strategies. 2. To identify and advise ONR on future developments in nuclear technologies and their potential implications for nuclear regulation. 3. To advise on the adequacy and balance of the safety and security research needs identified by ONR and the work commissioned to meet them. 4. To facilitate ONR’s engagement with external centres of technical excellence. |
|  | ONR noted that membership of the panel was to be reviewed post meeting and welcomed suitable candidate nominations from current panel members. |
|  | ONR noted that the topics for discussion had been presented to the panel previously. Innovation was initially presented three and half years ago and again in October 2020; whilst Climate Change presented once before in March 2021. |
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| **2** | **ONR’s innovation strategy** |
|  | ONR presented slides 3-12 from 2022/21178. Recommendations made and agreed by the panel are as follows: |
|  | * ONR should review work undertaken by other regulators in relation to innovation, such as MHRA, to identify best practices and apply lessons learnt. * ONR should recognise potential conflicts of interest between enhancing our enabling regulation approach using innovation, against requirements to be a robust regulator (given political drivers to grow the nuclear industry). ONR should develop clear lines to take on what can, and can’t, be achieved through the innovation strategy. * ONR should recognise traditional stereotypes that regulators are blockers to industry and address through an appropriate communications strategy. This could include use of simple examples and case studies to communicate positive messages on industry engagement. * ONR should address perceptions that regulators are slow to adapt to industry changes and address through an appropriate communications strategy. This could include examples of ONR rapidly responding to innovations and requests for engagement with industry. |
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| **3** | **Review of Advice Provided by CNI IAP** |
|  | ONR noted that an extensive review of advice and recommendations made by the CNI IAP since 2018 had been completed. The review sought to record how ONR had acted upon the recommendations made. |
|  | ONR confirmed that the review would be distributed to panel members shortly. |
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| **4** | **Update on ONR climate change work and communications** |
|  | ONR presented slides 13-36 from 2022/21178. Recommendations made and agreed by the panel are as follows:   * Climate change considerations should expand wider than meteorological hazards and impact from coastal flooding. ONR should consider impact of societal disruption from climate change and potential subsequent impact on infrastructure, nuclear safety, and nuclear security. * ONR should recognise uncertainty regarding climate change and continue setting expectations for reasonably foreseeable/design basis events and beyond design basis events. Noting that tools used by ONR to monitor the impact from climate change on these events appeared robust. * ONR should consider working with other government departments and identify any additional work that could be done in relation to climate change. * ONR should considering upskilling staff with knowledge on climate change and sustainability to better engage with industry. The carbon trust was highlighted as a source of expertise which may help. |
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| **5** | **Future Topics for Discussion** |
|  | Potential topics were noted for future discussion as follows:   * Recommendations made by the UK government’s Post Implementation Review of ONR (concluded in March 2022). * Progress made against findings from the 2019 International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) Integrated Regulatory Review Service (IRRS) mission to the UK. |
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|  | The meeting closed at 12:25 |
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