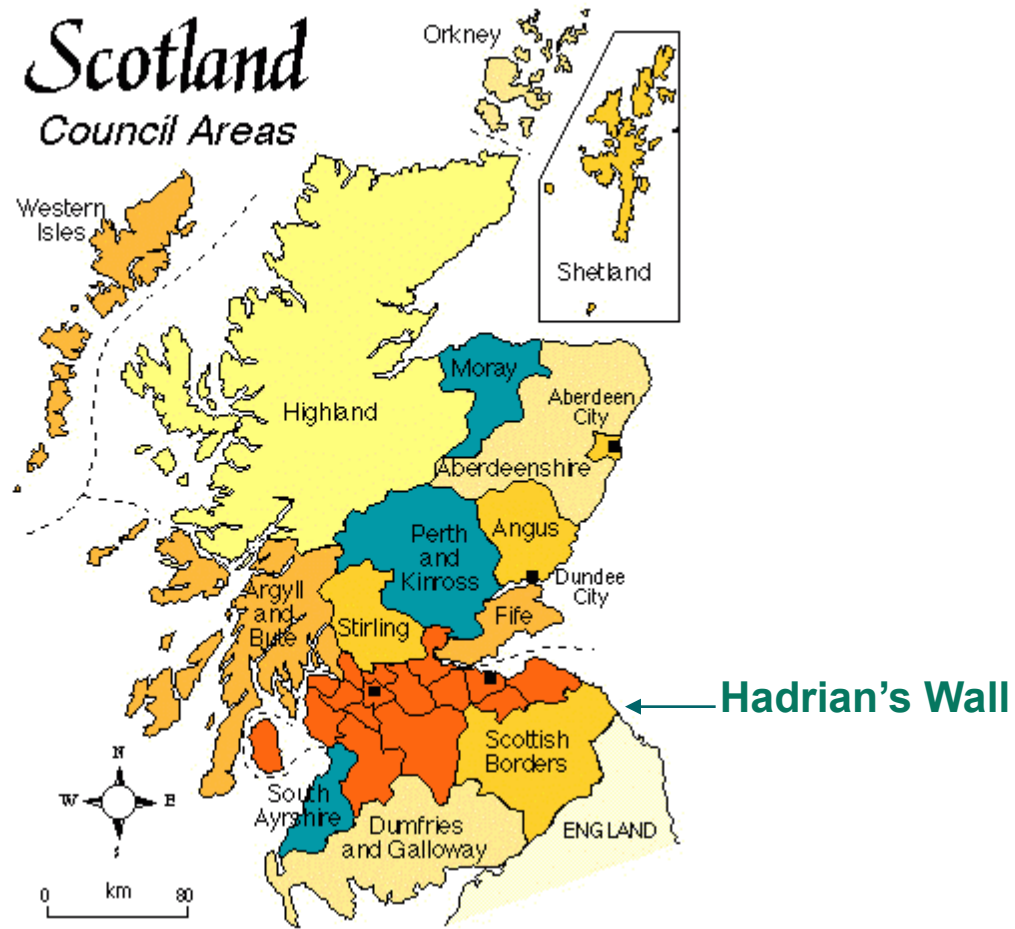


LLW Management in Scotland

Jim Cochrane
RS Policy Unit –
Scottish Environment Protection Agency

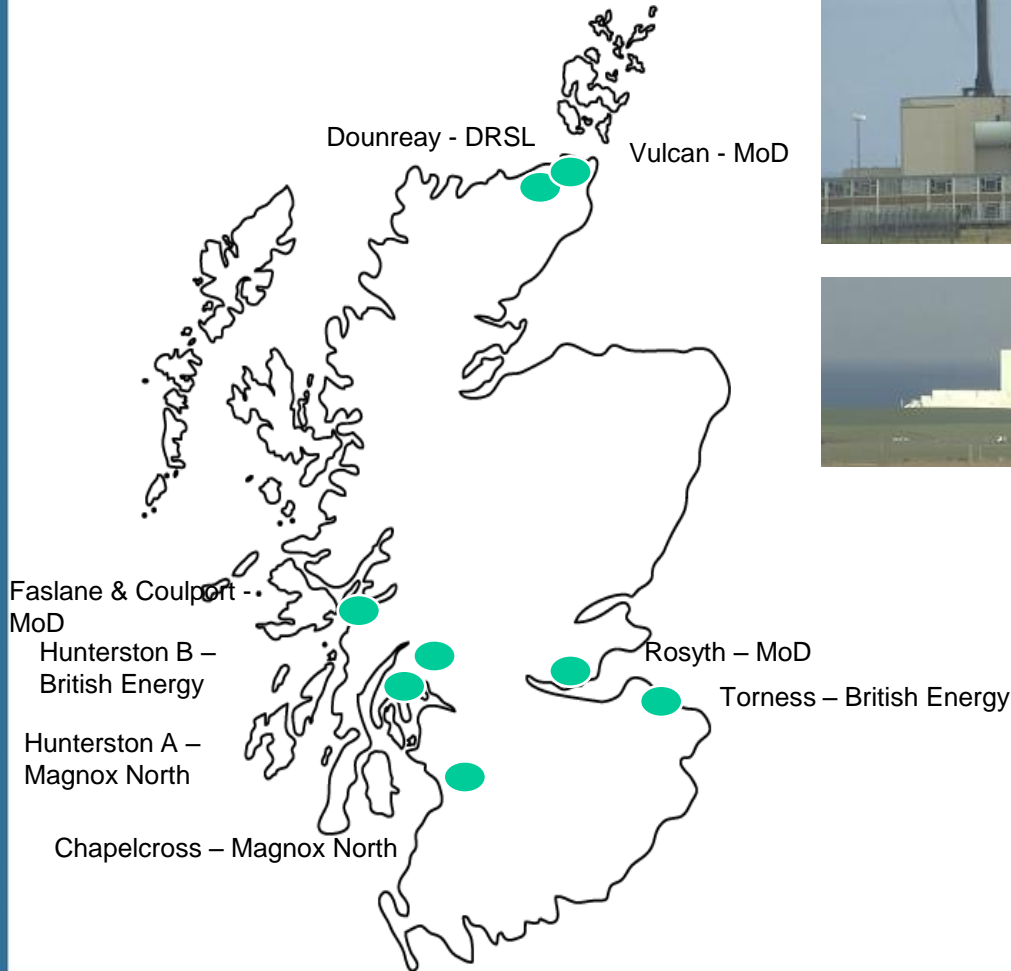
Geographical Remit of SEPA



Scope of Talk

- Focus on the regulation of LLW at NLS in Scotland
- Explain any differences in EA/SEPA regulatory approach
- Applying the waste hierarchy in Scotland – a personal view
- Outline some issues for non-nuclear sites

Nuclear Licensed Sites in Scotland



Nuclear LLW Management in Scotland

- Waste from MoD, BE & Magnox sites go to LLWR
- Dedicated LLW facility planned near Dounreay
- Public attitude to radioactive waste – lack of re-use/recycling markets, incineration
- Non-nuclear sector much better at applying waste hierarchy – SEPA Waste Sector Plan
- Planning framework includes potential future need for LLW facilities



What is SEPA Doing

- Developing guidance on regulation of facilities for LV VLLW, HV VLLW, controlled burial & on-site disposal
- GRA Guidance (EA/SEPA) on near-surface disposal facilities – now out for consultation (ends Sep 08)
- Developing a proportionate regulatory approach - based on radiological assessment/capacity
- Developing views on LLW Management Plans
- Hope to have regulatory guidance on implementing the March 07 policy on our website soon

Integrated Waste Management

- LLWR to use a IWM process for structured decision-making – why not all radwastes?
- SEPA/EA advocate an integrated approach to managing all wastes on sites inc. rad, conventional, hazardous special etc
- Agree there is an opportunity for “quick wins” – especially in waste avoidance
- Opportunity for LLWR to provide on-site support to NLS – teach, not preach

Best Practice Culture

- NDA role to incentivise the waste hierarchy – metrics linked to money (PBIs)
- Application of international best practice in UK is evolution, not revolution – instil a culture of good practice
- SEPA view same as EA – get us involved early
- UKNWM to provide technical support, guidance
- Open up and build on reuse/recycling markets – stimulate supply chain, drive innovation, create opportunities

Changes to Waste Regulation

- 2 classification systems for LLW – legal and policy – not wholly consistent, timing differences
- Review of Exemption Orders – opportunity for a framework of exclusion, exemption & clearance – qualitative & quantitative limits
- Regulation based on EC (BSS) & IAEA frameworks already in existence
- Better waste characterisation = better waste sentencing

Don't Forget the Non-nuclear Sector

In Scotland

- 1 controlled burial site
- 2 small incinerators – site waste only
- With 2 exceptions, all clinical waste that is also radioactive – exported to England
- Oil and gas an important market for Scotland – LSA scale (radium) a difficulty



The Ultimate in Recycling?

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