

FILE DETAILS

Audio Length:	Nine minutes		
Audio Quality:	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> High	<input type="checkbox"/> Average	<input type="checkbox"/> Low
Number of Facilitators:	One		
Number of Interviewees:	One		
Difficult Accent(s):	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No	
Other Comments:			

START OF TRANSCRIPT

Nick Gardham: Hello. Good morning, and welcome to everyone who's joined us for this second Copeland Working Group webinar. Just to give you a brief introduction to myself, before I hand over to Mark Cullinan, who is also with us. I'm Nick Gardham. As it says on the screen there, I'm the independent facilitator for the Copeland working group.

In short, for those that weren't part of the previous webinar, my role is simply to try to get a conversation going with members of the community about the geological disposal facility, the siting process and everything else around it, as the working group continues its work.

A big thank you, first of all, to those people who agreed to have a short conversation with me prior to this session. I must say that was really helpful, thank you very much, and certainly, hopefully will inform this session.

What makes this session different from the previous webinar we held is the opportunity for people to interact, and that's really what we're looking for on this session. It's a conversation. We were quite - the first step webinar was good. It was an opportunity for people to start asking questions, but actually, we were quite rightfully challenged on that basis that the first one wasn't a conversation. It was me, asking questions of panellists, that were, in part, predetermined, but also, came through on the chat box as well.

[Unclear] words are denoted in square brackets and time stamps may be used to indicate their location within the audio.

This time, it's an opportunity for people to ask directly of panellists and others, some of the questions that you've got and that you want to see answered.

Now, about questions, and about that, we will aim to be clear and succinct in our responses, to make sure that this is as conversational as possible. We won't go on at length for any particular response, and I'll try and keep this introduction as brief as possible, as well.

All we're asking in return is equally for you to keep your questions as succinct as possible. The reason for that is, when I've spoken to people on the phone, when I've spoken to people on the Zoom calls and everything else, in advance, people have got so many questions to ask, and really want to engage in this conversation. We want to be respectful and allow everyone a chance to speak and participate, so no one, or no one group or whoever, people, dominate the conversation.

So, if one of us asks you quite politely to move on with your questions, or move a bit quicker, please don't take that as any form of critique.

The same for the panellists, also, who are responding. We may ask them to speed up a bit in their response, if they're not getting to the point quickly enough.

That, in a nutshell, is it. We are going to move into another space, in a minute, which will be, as I say, more conversational.

If we have any issues on this call, if any challenges emerge or whatever it might be, or we get cut off, then, first of all, we will - don't worry, your questions will still be answered. What we will do is we'll end this call, and we'll ask you, if possible, to join the evening call tonight. We'd still love to have the conversation with you, but if there is a challenge and we can't, for whatever reason, your questions will be answered. We'll endeavour to rearrange or do something, to make sure we can continue, but we're not expecting any difficulties or any challenges, or anything that's going to cut us off, so that, hopefully, won't happen.

I've been reliably informed that there'll be a transcript at the end of this, as well, so, for those that want to read it, or perhaps want to share with others, that will be available about eight to 10 days after the end of the sessions today.

As I say, any questions not answered, we will endeavour to answer them, please get in touch. This is about a conversation. This isn't a one-off webinar. This is an ongoing conversation.

I have heard, but I will allow the panellists to speak directly for themselves, that panellists also are willing for you to have conversations with them directly, as well.

I'm going to leave it at that and I'm actually now going to hand over to Mark Cullinan, who is the Chair of the working group. So, Mark, I'm going to hand over to you.

Mark Cullinan:

Thank you very much, Nick. As Nick says, I'm the Independent Chair of the Copeland Working Group. Thank you for joining the webinar today.

The working group has been in place for just about six months now, and I'm really pleased with the progress that we've been making. One of the things that we have had some difficulty with is engaging with people, particularly as all of that six months has been within the lockdown period.

I think we've still done pretty well. We've used the traditional methods, like newsletters, websites, Facebook, LinkedIn, and I'm really pleased that one of the tools that we have available to us for engaging with local people, is our virtual exhibition. If you haven't had a look at that, then, please do take the opportunity.

If things go as planned by government, it will be possible to have face-to-face meetings, and we're all really looking forward to doing that.

The working group is planning a three-week public exhibition out and about around Copeland, subject to the COVID restrictions continuing to ease. We're hoping to visit at least eight locations from 1 July to 24 July, providing information, allowing people to

ask questions, having face-to-face discussions, and to meet with working group members.

If you want to know more about geological disposal for higher activity radio [sic] waste, how a suitable site for a GDF is identified, what it could mean for Copeland, how a community partnership is formed, and what it will do, as well as subjects including geology, safety and the environment, then please put 1 July to 24 July dates in your diary. Look out for more details, including the locations that we'll be having the exhibitions at, in due course.

We will be inviting people to register for their preferred location beforehand, but that's just to help us to manage each venue's capacities. It's not essential that you register, it just means that if you just turn up and it's a really busy moment, then there might just be a little queue while there's enough space for everybody to operate safely.

That's all I wanted to say. Thank you very much for joining today. See you later. Thank you.

Nick Gardham: Thank you, Mark.

Before we move into the breakout spaces then, it's best, probably, if we tell you who's going to be speaking and who's involved. If we just flip to that slide, I will go through.

You've just - we've started that with a bit of welcome and introductions and what we're going to do now is I will share with you some of the speakers involved in today's session.

Today's sessions will be split into three conversations, starting initially with the historical questions we have around the geology of Copeland. The second thing we'll be looking at, as it says on the screen, is what the geological suitability for a GDF, and understanding how that comes about. Then, lastly, it's around the safety of a GDF. So, we will be talking a lot about the science and technology, and any other questions that you have, please bring them up as we go throughout the conversation.

This one, as I say, this specific session is on geology, and don't worry, there'll be future sessions if you've got other questions on other topics.

Then, lastly, I will try and endeavour to wrap up as best as we can, and we'll hear also from the regulators who are involved in this process, at that point.

Thank you very much.

I'll just quickly take you through the presenters and who's involved. We have - I won't necessarily go through them all. You can see the screen there, for those. We have a great list, a fantastic list of people, who, hopefully, will be able to answer your questions, and if we can't, for whatever reason, then we'll endeavour to get a response to you.

I know we've got to move on, and we're all going to travel to the breakouts now. So, I'm going to finish here, and, hopefully, see you in a breakout session very shortly.

END OF TRANSCRIPT