



Proposals for changes to Sizewell emergency
arrangements:
Off Site Emergency Response

Suffolk Resilience Forum report on the January to April
2013 consultation

Dated 2 May 2013

Suffolk Resilience Forum
8 Russell Road,
Ipswich
IP1 2BX

Telephone: 01473 265321 Website: www.suffolkresilience.com
© copyright 2013

Copyright in the typographical arrangement and design rests with the Suffolk Resilience Forum. This publication (excluding logos) may be re-used free of charge in any format or medium provided that it is re-used accurately and not used in a misleading context. The material must be acknowledged as copyright and the title of the publication specified.

Additional copies: You may make copies of this document without seeking permission and may re-use this information (excluding logos) free of charge in any format or medium.

Electronic copies of this document can be found on the Suffolk Resilience Forum website.

Table of Contents

Purpose of this document

Consultation Responses

Key Findings

Next Steps

Detail of Responses

Annex A: List of respondents.

Annex B: Record of all comments made (separate document - available online at www.suffolkresilience.com).

Purpose of this document

This document is the Suffolk Resilience Forum report on the consultation on changes to Sizewell off site emergency arrangements that was conducted between 7 January and 8 April 2013. Published as an 'open' document on the Suffolk Resilience Forum, Suffolk County Council and Suffolk Coastal District Council's websites and mailed to local residents, town and parish councils and other vulnerable groups around the Sizewell nuclear power stations site, the consultation sought views on:

- Changing the Detailed Emergency Planning Zone from its current 2.4kms to 4kms in line with new international guidelines and providing residents who live in this area with regular information on emergency actions in the unlikely event of an incident at the site.
- Introducing a Precautionary Emergency Planning Zone of 4kms to 15kms to improve awareness of emergency planning arrangements to this wider area and allow prompt extension of any emergency response in more extreme situations.
- Increasing capacity for evacuation, rest centres and radiation monitoring to match proposed changes to emergency planning zones.
- Asking for views on the best way of providing information on emergency response actions to residents in the proposed Precautionary Emergency Planning Zone.
- Widening the list of pre-identified vulnerable groups who might be evacuated in the surrounding area to include play groups and residential care homes and adopting precautionary evacuation for such vulnerable groups rather than shelter.

The consultation closed on 8 April 2013. We received 292 responses from a variety of organisations, groups and individuals. We would like to thank all respondents who submitted a formal response.

Conducting the consultation process

The public consultation was conducted in accordance with Radiation (Emergency Preparedness and Public Information) Regulations 2001 (REPPPIR) Regulation 9(12)b to support the 3 yearly review of off site emergency arrangements required by Regulation 10(1). The consultation was led by Suffolk County Council in conjunction with the Suffolk Resilience Forum.

The Department for Energy and Climate Change, Office for Nuclear Regulation and the Sizewell operators (EDF Energy and Magnox) supported the decision by the Suffolk Resilience Forum to seek public opinion as part of the formal review of the Sizewell Off Site Emergency Plan. The Suffolk Resilience Forum agreed a set of proposed changes to align with impending changes to national policy and guidance following the UK learning from the Fukushima accident.

Prior to the consultation starting, the proposals and consultation process were agreed with local County and District Councillors and local MPs were briefed. In December 2012, the consultation process was briefed to the Sizewell A&B Stakeholder Group.

The proposals were explained in a consultation document that was made available to a range of individuals and groups as follows:

- Approx 11,500 local residents living within 4kms of the Sizewell site were posted a hard copy of the consultation document via Royal Mail.

- Approx 21,000 people living within 4kms to 15kms from Sizewell were provided access to the consultation document online or in hard copy on request via local media publicity.
- 45 town and parish councils within 15kms of the site were posted a hard copy of the consultation document via Royal Mail.
- 20 public and private schools with within 15kms of the site were posted a hard copy of the consultation document via Royal Mail.
- 15 care homes within 15kms of the site were posted a hard copy of the consultation document via Royal Mail.
- 20 early years care providers within 15kms of the site were posted a hard copy of the consultation document via Royal Mail.

The focus of consultation was on communities likely to be affected by the proposed changes, namely up to 4kms for a reasonably foreseeable accident and up to 15kms for a worse case accident.

The consultation document was also sent to key stakeholders of the Sizewell Off Site Emergency Plan as follows:

- Department for Energy and Climate Change
- Office for Nuclear Regulation
- Health Protection Agency - Centre for Radiation, Chemical and Environmental Hazards
- Magnox Ltd - Sizewell A
- EDF Energy - Sizewell B
- Anglian Water
- UK Power Networks
- National Grid
- Harwich Haven Port Authority
- ABP Lowestoft
- Hutchinson Ports Felixstowe
- Sizewell Stakeholder Group

The consultation document and links to key background information from the Office for Nuclear Regulation Lessons Identified Report on Fukushima, International Atomic Energy Agency guidance, existing Sizewell Emergency Plan and Sizewell Stakeholder Group were provided electronically on the Suffolk County Council website.

A public forum was held on 20 February 2013 in conjunction with the Sizewell Stakeholder Group. This was attended by 40 members of the public.

Officers from the Suffolk Joint Emergency Planning Unit provided briefings to 8 town and parish councils, 3 schools, 3 care homes and 2 early years providers. Officers also attended 2 meetings of the Sizewell Stakeholder Group during the consultation period.

Consultation Responses

Of the 292 responses received, the breakdown by stakeholder sector is as follows:

Category	Total Number of Responses in each Category
Local residents	138 online + 146 by post = 284
Town and Parish Councils/Local Groups	6
Sizewell Plan Stakeholders	2
Total responses	292

A full list of respondents is at Annex A. While 292 responses were received, not all replies expressed a view on the specific proposals.

Furthermore, some respondents only expressed a view against some of the proposals and the Key Findings table below shows all responses by individual proposal.

The consultation also highlighted comments on areas that were outside of the proposals within the consultation document and these have been summarised on page 7. Where such comments have been made suggesting alternative proposals or additional changes, these will be fully considered as part of developing a revised plan. Where comments or suggestions are not taken forward, the reasons why will be published alongside the revised draft plan in July. A full record of all comments made is at Annex B.

Key Findings

The results of the consultation showed that an overall majority of respondents supported the proposed changes to Sizewell off site emergency arrangements.

Proposal	Number who answered	Number who agreed with proposal	Number who were neutral with proposal	Number who disagreed with proposal
Proposal 1. Introduce a revised Detailed Emergency Planning Zone at 4km.	281	207 - 74%	24 - 8%	50 - 18%
Proposal 2a. Introduce a Precautionary Emergency Planning Zone beyond the Detailed Emergency Planning Zone out to 15km.	281	214 - 76%	23 - 8%	44 - 16%
Proposal 2b. We have no plans to extend emergency planning zones beyond 15km but we need to understand who lives up to 30km from Sizewell so that we can prepare for a hypothetical incident which may affect this wider area.	273	187 - 68%	52 - 19%	34 - 13%

Proposal 3a. Increase capacity for evacuation, rest centres and radiation monitoring to match revised emergency planning zones.	276	236 - 85%	27 - 10%	13 - 5%
Proposal 3b. Make greater use of self evacuation and avoid sheltering whenever possible.	271	189 - 70%	59 - 22%	23 - 8%
Proposal 4. Provide public information to residents, businesses and vulnerable groups out to 15km.	279	236 - 84%	16 - 6%	27 - 10%
Proposal 5. Plan for precautionary evacuation of schools, care homes and play groups in the Precautionary Emergency Planning Zone if downwind of any release of radioactive material.	278	238 - 86%	22 - 8%	18 - 6%

The following common issues or concerns were raised by a minority of respondents:

- Concern about the size of emergency planning zones, both Detailed Emergency Planning and proposed Precautionary Emergency Planning, being too small and under-estimating the potential area where radioactive contamination might extend following a severe accident.
- Concern about timely issue of Potassium Iodate tablets beyond the Detailed Emergency Planning Zone in severe accidents.
- Concern about ability to successfully evacuate Detailed Emergency Planning Zone in severe accidents due to rural road network.
- Concern over lack of community involvement in Sizewell exercises, particularly evacuation.
- There is a clear divide over use of electronic and hard copy communications methods for prior information where distributed.
- Caution over relying upon electronic communication methods for alerting public.
- Concern over effect of emergency arrangements on:
 - House prices.
 - Land use planning.
 - Tourism.
- Concern over lack of advice for pets and livestock in emergency planning zones.
- Concern over contaminated vehicles and personal belongings.
- Clarification on suitable shelter during any radiation emergency.
- Use imperial as well as metric distances.
- Make prior information available in large print.
- Consider formation of local team of 'Nuclear First Responders' to harness pool of retired nuclear industry workers and other similarly experienced people (eg Radiation Protection Advisors) to augment monitoring capability.

Next Steps

The findings of the public consultation on Proposal 1 - size of the Detailed Emergency Planning Zone will be considered by the Office for Nuclear Regulation for the determination of any revised Detailed Emergency Planning Zone in accordance with REPPIR Regulation 9(1).

In accordance with REPPIR Regulation 11(3), the wider findings of the public consultation will be considered by the local emergency responders comprising the Suffolk Resilience Forum to determine what detailed changes to the existing Sizewell Off Site Emergency Plan should be made. Any changes to national guidance by the Nuclear Emergency Planning Liaison Group and lessons identified from the Sizewell A site Off Site Exercise ARATHORN will also be incorporated into the revised plan.

Suffolk County Council will lead the rewriting of the existing plan (REPPIR Regulation 10(1)) based upon the collective changes agreed by the Suffolk Resilience Forum in conjunction with the Office for Nuclear Regulation and the Sizewell operators.

A revised Sizewell Off Site Emergency plan will be available on the Suffolk Resilience Forum website in early summer, together with responses to detailed comments or suggestions made during the consultation that have not been included within the revised plan. Further comments and observations on the revised draft plan may be made using the same contact details as the consultation:

E-Mail: emergency.planning@suffolk.gov.uk
Post: Suffolk Resilience Forum
c/o Suffolk Joint Emergency Planning Unit
Endeavour House
Ipswich
IP1 2BX

The revised plan will be considered for issue by the SRF Executive, taking into account any further views of comments made.

Suffolk County Council will reissue the Sizewell Off Site Plan in summer 2013. It will inform the Office for Nuclear Regulation and Sizewell operators when it has been reissued. The revised plan will be published on the Suffolk Resilience Forum website.

Where changes to the existing emergency arrangements are required, an implementation plan will also be agreed to set out who will lead any change, when changes will take place and how these will be communicated to local responders and to local communities around Sizewell. The timescales to implement any changes to the Sizewell Off Site Plan will be agreed with the Office for Nuclear Regulation and will be issued when the revised Off Site plan is published.

Detail of Responses

Proposal 1. Introduce a revised Detailed Emergency Planning Zone at 4km.

Overview

Number who answered	Number Agreed	Number Neutral	Number Disagreed
281	207 - 74%	24 - 8%	50 - 18%

Specific Comments

Comment	Number of times made in response to this proposal
Too small/not big enough	12
Increase to 15kms	3
Increase to 30kms	3
Include whole of Leiston	2
Leave at 2.4kms/Keep the same	2
Increase to 5kms	2
Increase to 20kms	2
Include Knodishall and Theberton	2
Extend the DEPZ along the B1122 so that the DEPZ boundary falls between settlements,	1
Include Highbury Cottages	1
Increase to 50kms	1
Provide appropriate signage for casual visitors	1
Exclude Thorpeness	1
Exclude Aldringham cum Thorpe	1
Include Aldringham cum Thorpe	1

Proposal 2a. Introduce a Precautionary Emergency Planning Zone beyond the Detailed Emergency Planning Zone out to 15km.

Overview

Number who answered	Number Agreed	Number Neutral	Number Disagreed
281	214 - 76%	23 - 8%	44 - 16%

Specific Comments

Comment	Number of times made in response to this proposal
Not big enough/too small	6
Increase to 30kms	6
Keep current arrangements	1
Increase to over 50kms	1
Only for schools and institutions with large numbers of people	1
Allow people to purchase KI in this zone	1

Use term 'Urgent Protective Emergency Planning Zone'	1
Pre-distribute KI	1
Include Halesworth, Framlingham and Wickham Market	1
Include all of Southwold/Reydon and Felixstowe	1

Proposal 2b. We have no plans to extend emergency planning zones beyond 15km but we need to understand who lives up to 30km from Sizewell so that we can prepare for a hypothetical incident which may affect this wider area.

Overview

Number who answered	Number Agreed	Number Neutral	Number Disagreed
273	187 - 68%	52 - 19%	34 - 13%

Specific Comments

Comment	Number of times made in response to this proposal
Provide information out to 30kms	3
Allow people to purchase KI in this zone	2
Increase to 40kms	1
Include Ipswich and Lowestoft	1

Proposal 3a. Increase capacity for evacuation, rest centres and radiation monitoring to match revised emergency planning zones.

Overview

Number who answered	Number Agreed	Number Neutral	Number Disagreed
276	236 - 85%	27 - 10%	13 - 5%

Specific Comments

Comment	Number of times made in response to this proposal
How would we stand if parents turned up to collect their children in child care or at school?	2
How will evacuation of care homes be achieved - large resources needed in short space of time	1
How will tourists be accommodated into plans?	1
Who funds increases?	1
Exercised off site monitoring/decontamination?	1
Exercised for more than one day?	1
Having 2 children myself and working in a children's centre I would struggle with a lockdown for 48hrs as I would want my children to be with me.	1

Evacuation Centres located outside of emergency planning zones	1
Prioritise radiation monitoring for children, young adults and pregnant women.	1
Establish how many would actually use evacuation and rest centres and how many would just travel to friends and family outside the zone.	1
Not required/'overkill'	1

Proposal 3b. Make greater use of self evacuation and avoid sheltering whenever possible.

Overview

Number who answered	Number Agreed	Number Neutral	Number Disagreed
271	189 - 70%	59 - 22%	23 - 8%

Specific Comments

Comment	Number of times made in response to this proposal
Concern about traffic issues for self evacuation	7
How do you check who has evacuated?	2
Advice for pets/livestock	2

Proposal 4. Provide public information to residents, businesses and vulnerable groups out to 15km.

Overview

Number who answered	Number Agreed	Number Neutral	Number Disagreed
279	236 - 84%	16 - 6%	27 - 10%

Specific Comments

Comment	Number of times made in response to this proposal
Increase to 30km/beyond 15kms	7
Only within DEPZ	2
Need to cover what advice is for children at school or with child minders	1

Proposal 5. Plan for precautionary evacuation of schools, care homes and play groups in the Precautionary Emergency Planning Zone if downwind of any release of radioactive material.

Overview

Number who answered	Number Agreed	Number Neutral	Number Disagreed
278	238 - 86%	22 - 8%	18 - 6%

Specific Comments

Comment	Number of times made in response to this proposal
Automatic evacuation of children	3
Only in DEPZ	1
Include community centres and other leisure buildings	1
Include Aldeburgh Hospital	1

Comments on Information in proposed Precautionary Emergency planning Zone.

Comment	Number of times made in response to this proposal
Prior Information	
E-Mail	41
Post	34
Printed leaflet	11
Online website	9
Use Parish Councils to help inform public/Parish Newsletters	6
Annually updated	4
Public meetings	2
Every household should have basic information on what radiation is, how contamination travels, how it affects health, how long contamination remains dangerous to people and the environment.	1
Information should be available on line with all wind and feed back from radiation monitoring points available	1
Avoid scaremongering	1
Alerting and Immediate Advice	
Receive alerts eg by text	31
Phone calls	23
TV/radio	23
Use sirens	13
Loudspeakers/Door to door	10
Use social media	3

Annex A: List of respondents.

Plan Stakeholders

EDF Energy Nuclear Generation
Sizewell A&B Stn Stakeholder Group

The Department of Energy & Climate Change and the Office for Nuclear Regulation both confirmed that they would not be providing a response at this stage.

Group

A total of 6 responses from local groups were received:

Aldringham-cum-Thorpe Parish Council
Kelsale-cum-Carlton Parish Council
Leiston Town Council
Sweffling Parish Council
Suffolk Coastal Friends of the Earth
Shut Down Sizewell Campaign

Individual

A total of 284 individual responses were received.