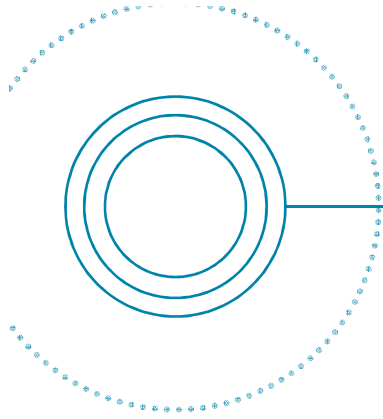


NUCLEAR Academics meeting

Rick Short, Research Manager





Why does NDA fund R&D?

Inform Strategy

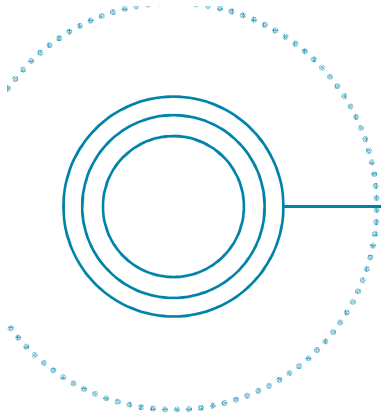
Underpin strategic options and mitigate risks

Deliver Innovation

Improve SLCs lifetime plans

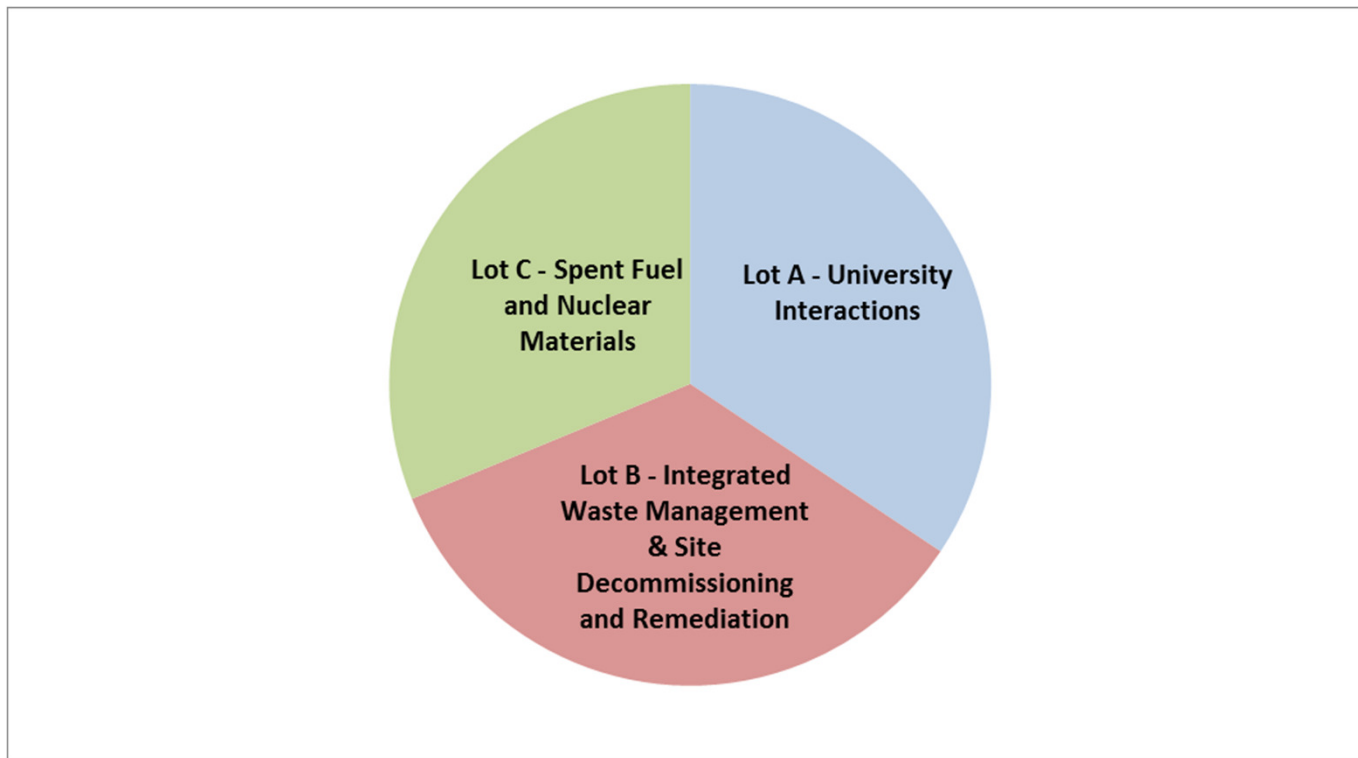
Maintain and Develop Skills

Plug estate-wide capability gaps, enable knowledge transfer, maintain intelligent client ability



What does NDA fund R&D on?

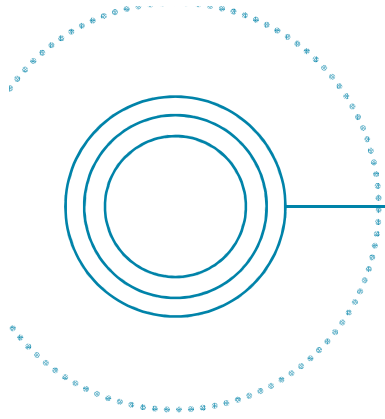
~£5m per year through NDA Direct Research Portfolio spent on:





Lot A – University Interactions

- PhD bursaries (~£500k/yr)
6(ish) new PhD projects per year
- Industrial supervision of PhD projects (~£250k/yr)
All NDA-funded PhD students get an industry supervisor
- Active facilities access (£200k/yr)
- Research Centre for Non Destructive Evaluation (£125k)
- EPSRC iCASE awards (£60k)
- EPSRC collaborative projects, CDTs, Lot B & C academic support



PhD Bursary scheme

2017-18 call for proposals open now!

Deadline for submission 9th October 2017

Themes:

Characterisation

Decommissioning

Spent fuel & nuclear materials

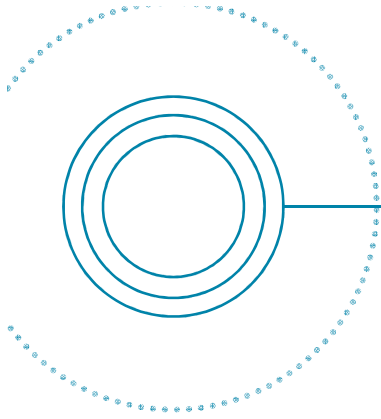
Waste packaging & storage

Land quality

Open (includes robotics and effluents)



<http://www.nnl.co.uk/news-media-centre/latest-news/nda-phd-bursary-2018/>



Benefits of NDA PhD funding

All NDA-funded students get:

An industry supervisor

- Facilitates knowledge exchange between academia and industry
- Steers research towards industrial relevance

Annual site visit and presentation day

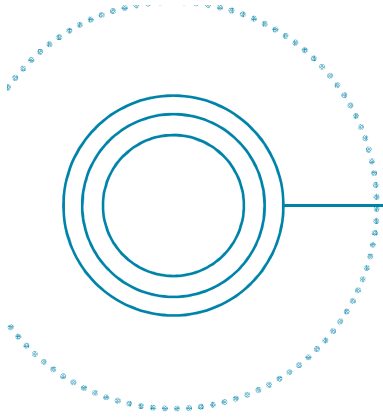
- Increases industry involvement in academic research
- Allows students to visit the “coal face”

Annual PhD Bursary Seminar

- Direct exposure to ~80 industry & regulator technical leads

Full-term funding guarantee on commencement of project

Active facilities access



Facilities access fund

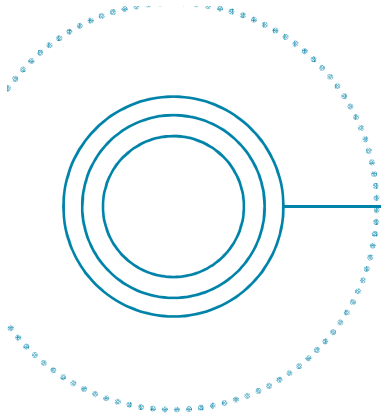
- Supports academic access to NNL Central Lab
- Covers **facilities costs** for duration of work
- Open to all UK academics (not just PhD, not just decom R&D)
- Enabled via cooperation with NNL

amanda.kenway-jackson@nnl.co.uk



General access for NDA-funded students

- Full access cost can be covered for appropriate active work
- Must align with NDA drivers and demonstrate benefit to Estate
- Inclusion in original PhD scope boosts probability of backing



Research council initiatives

EPSRC collaborative projects

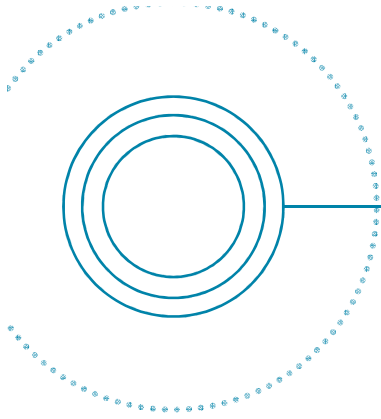
- NDA is primary industry partner in current DISTINCTIVE consortium
- Direct funding and in-kind support committed
- Workshop to discuss follow-on project will be held in September 2017

Centres for Doctoral Training

- NDA regularly funds PhD projects in the Next Generation Nuclear CDT
- RWM represents the Estate in the ICO CDT in Nuclear Energy

Industrial CASE awards

- NDA generally receives two iCASE vouchers per year
- Used to support both NDA direct and SLC/Subsidiary research projects



Managing expectations

Requests for Letters of Support

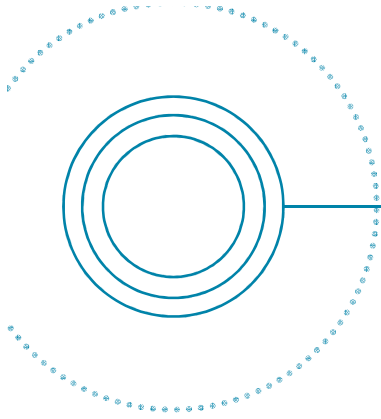
- Consider alignment with NDA R&D drivers before requesting
- Allow **minimum** of 3 weeks to produce letter
- Allow longer if financial or in-kind support is requested

Unsolicited requests for co-funding projects

- Consider alignment with NDA R&D drivers before approaching NDA
- Speak to NDA research manager in first instance
- Realistic internal approval time is 2 months **minimum**

Access to active facilities

- Significant discussion required in advance with facility owners & operators
- Allow **at least** 6 months before expected start date



Where to find more information

NDA University R&D strategy

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/nuclear-decommissioning-authority-university-research-and-development-strategy>

NDA 5 year R&D plan

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/nda-research-and-development-5-year-plan-2014-to-2019>

NDA Technical Baseline

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/nuclear-decommissioning-authority-rd-technical-baseline>

Industry Guidance for Research in Academic Institutions

Coming soon – watch the NDA website!



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