

SESSION TITLE: Wasteforms and Decommissioning

<p>Strengths</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • On-going decommissioning programme • Well respected and flexible regulators • Good capability in cementation and novel wasteforms • Growing university involvement • National facilities (DIAMOND/ISIS) • Robotics (decomm) • Some waste characterisation (ex situ) 	<p>Weaknesses</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lack of active capability and access to "National" Lab • "Recycled" research outside universities • Waste characterisation (in situ) • Lack of engagement internationally (low profile), limited UK industry involvement in EU programmes • Conservatism of Site Licence Companies • Small, fragmented capability • Lack of long-term strategic thinking/coordination • Need for more fundamental understanding as well as needs driven
<p>Opportunities</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Range of UK wastes and large volume • Growing university involvement • To develop coordinated decontamination and waste R&D strategy • Knowledge transfer (e.g. from military, oil/gas) • To participate in global programmes • To accelerate hazard reduction at Sellafield Legacy Ponds and Silos • Re-engage universities and SLCs • Clean-up/decom business overseas 	<p>Threats</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Isolation from international community (French dominate EU) • No repository (GDF) • Lack of finance • RCUK – lack of support of PhDs • Need for very long term training/skills • Lack of coordinated strategy • Universities compete rather than cooperate