

The contract builds on the more than 20 years of technical safety advice and assessment work that Jacobs has provided for the ONR.

The United Kingdom's **Nuclear Waste Services**, part of the country's **Nuclear Decommissioning**

**Authority** (NDA), has awarded a three-year contract to Texas-based **KBR** to help develop a deep geological disposal facility (GDF) for high-level radioactive waste. KBR will be involved in project management, communication and community engagement, technical design, and

digital and transformation strategy. The GDF will have a network of underground vaults and tunnels to confine the waste and prevent harmful levels of radiation from reaching the surface. The contract will result in the creation of an estimated 4,000 jobs. There is an ongoing search in Britain for a suitable disposal site, with community partnerships in Mid Copeland, South Copeland, and Alledale in Cumbria, as well as Theddlethorpe in Lincolnshire, engaged in dialogue with local residents.

In other **NDA** news, the authority and the **National Decommissioning Centre** (NDC) have signed a three-year collaborative research agreement—the first such agreement between the nation's nuclear and oil/gas decommissioning sectors. In the strategic partnership, the NDA will collaborate with researchers from the University of Aberdeen, part of the NDC, in such areas as decarbonization activities, economic impacts, cost benchmarking, and remote operations in hazardous environments. The overall objective is to conduct research that will benefit both the nuclear and offshore energy sectors, such as by providing alternative processes, new technologies, and the harnessing of NDC's simulation suite.

The **NDA** has also signed an MOU with the Welsh company **Cwmni Egin** to support the company's development of a new small-scale nuclear project at Trawsfynydd, in North Wales. The Trawsfynydd Magnox nuclear power plant operated for 26 years until shutting down in the early 1990s. NDA subsidiary Magnox is currently performing the decommissioning of the facility. The Welsh government established Cwmni Egin to drive new development at the site. The new MOU formalizes a



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