

Low Level Waste Repository (LLWR) Engineering, Design & Construction Framework (EDCF)

One team one vision

£30m

/ Project value

October 2014

/ The build commenced

December 2019

/ Scheduled completion

Trusted as a strategic delivery partner on a four-year framework agreement, we provide technical engineering, design and construction expertise at the UK's national low level radioactive waste disposal facility - Low Level Waste Repository (LLWR) - in West Cumbria. Under three defined programmes of work, our award winning approach, centred on effective collaboration with Low Level Waste Repository Limited, who operate the site on behalf of the Nuclear Decommissioning Authority (NDA), has ensured the successful delivery of the framework's parameters since its inception in October 2014.

The Brief

Central to the Engineering, Design & Construction Framework (EDCF) is the innovative design and construction of strategic projects, supplemented by asset repair and refurbishment throughout the expansive Low Level Waste Repository site in full alignment with our partner Low Level Waste Repository Limited.



"The signing of the contract extension is a measure of the confidence we have in GRAHAM to continue to carry out extensive works on our site"

Paul Pointon
LLWR's Head of Site

“When the partnership initially started there was only a handful of people, now when I look around there is an integrated LLWR EDCF team of over 70, with excellent camaraderie and collaboration”

Carl Carruthers
Head of Programme and Projects for LLWR

The Challenges

Transparency and collaboration are essential to the successful management of the framework, particularly within the confines of the heavily regulated nuclear industry through the Office for Nuclear Regulation (ONR). Exceeding expectations, we intuitively formed a Joint Venture with the client to mitigate against the challenges, and risks, associated with complex engineering operations on a licensed nuclear site. An aligned 'Framework Vision' was established from the outset and fully integrated into a joint Integrated Management System (IMS) while an 'Integrated Core Team' was mobilised and collocated, operating from a new bespoke on-site office, welfare and compound facility.

GRAHAM's added value solution

Initially a split contract of two two-year sections, the reliability of the single team approach was validated in October 2016 as Low Level Waste Repository Limited retained the option to proceed with the second half of the deal based on performance and tangible outputs. Three defined programmes have been implemented at this key UK low level radioactive waste disposal facility namely a 'Security Enhancements Programme', a 'Repository Infrastructure Programme' and a 'Repository Development Programme'. Notable features include the completion of optimisation and closure works, the construction of three re-locatable storage enclosures and trench cap improvements. Equally as important, 44 employees, 32 of which are locally based, have made significant contributions in the successful delivery of the framework while over 80 people from SMEs were utilised for subcontracting purposes.

Outputs & Benefits

- / **Award Winning:** Bronze 2017: Considerate Constructors Scheme
- / **Collaboration:** A hugely successful Joint Venture with LLWR Limited was created
- / **Transformation:** Work facilitated the first delivery by train in over six years to the site
- / **Community Considerations:** The removal of over 120 HGV lorries from the local village by transporting 120 tonnes of aggregate by train
- / **Helping Hand:** Volunteers provided skills and practical support to local homeless centre Calderwood House during its refurbishment
- / **Inspiring Future Generations:** Three STEM Ambassadors were created



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