



# Office for Nuclear Regulation (ONR) Quarterly Site Report for Berkeley

Report for period 1 October – 31 December 2014

## Foreword

This report is issued as part of ONR's commitment to make information about inspection and regulatory activities relating to the above site available to the public. Reports are distributed quarterly to members of the Berkeley Site Stakeholder Group and are also available on the ONR website (<http://www.onr.org.uk/llc/>).

The safety site inspector from ONR usually attends the Berkeley Site Stakeholder Group meetings and will respond to any questions raised there. Any person wishing to inquire about matters covered by this report should contact ONR.

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## 1 INSPECTIONS

### 1.1 Dates of inspection

The ONR site inspector made inspections on the following dates during the quarter:

- 1-3 October 2014
- 8 October 2014 (at the Cavendish factory in Whetstone)
- 28 October 2014 (Ionising Radiations Regulations inspection)
- 25-28 November 2014

## 2 ROUTINE MATTERS

### 2.1 Inspections

Inspections are undertaken as part of the process for monitoring compliance with:

- the conditions attached by ONR to the nuclear site licence granted under the Nuclear Installations Act 1965 (NIA65) (as amended);
- the Energy Act 2013
- the Health and Safety at Work Act 1974 (HSWA74); and
- regulations made under HSWA74, for example the Ionising Radiations Regulations 1999 (IRR99) and the Management of Health and Safety at Work Regulations 1999 (MHSWR99).

The inspections entail monitoring licensee's actions on the site in relation to incidents, operations, maintenance, projects, modifications, safety case changes and any other matters that may affect safety. The licensee is required to make and implement adequate arrangements under the conditions attached to the licence in order to ensure legal compliance. Inspections seek to judge both the adequacy of these arrangements and their implementation.

In this period, routine inspections of Berkeley covered the following:

- System inspection of the active vaults ventilation system
- Accumulation of radioactive waste
- Modification to existing plant
- Operating rules and Operating instructions
- Control of occupational radiation exposure

System inspections focus on the significant safety systems and structures derived from Berkeley's safety cases. ONR's system inspection of the active vaults ventilation system considered how the system's safety case was converted into arrangements under the relevant licence conditions. ONR found that the arrangements met the requirements of the safety case.

In general, ONR judged that the arrangements made and implemented by the site met the requirements of the safety case and the required safety standards in the areas inspected.

Berkeley provided ONR with presentations on the progress made during the year in decommissioning plant on the site. This demonstrated to ONR that adequate progress was being made to reduce the hazards on the site and contain radioactive wastes in passively safe forms.

ONR, as in the previous quarter, inspected the manufacture of more plant and equipment to be used to empty radioactive waste from the vaults at another manufacturer's work place. ONR was satisfied that the work was of the requisite quality and would help to minimise the risks from treating the waste and should minimise the likelihood of generating unnecessary additional waste. The plant and equipment had since been transported to site and is being

installed before being commissioned. In readiness for this ONR held discussions with Berkeley staff.

## 2.2 Other work

The site inspector attended the November Joint Site Stakeholder meeting (with the Oldbury Stakeholder Group), where he referred members to the third quarter's report.

An ONR specialist inspector reviewed the Berkeley's compliance with regulation 8 of the Ionising Radiations Regulations 1999, which is concerned with the restriction of exposure to ionising radiations. Berkeley's arrangements were found to meet the required safety standards.

## 3 NON-ROUTINE MATTERS

Licensees are required to have arrangements to respond to non-routine matters and events. ONR inspectors judge the adequacy of the licensee's response, including actions taken to implement any necessary improvements.

Matters of particular note during the period were:

Cavendish Fluor Partnership (CFP) assumed full control as the Parent Body Organisation (PBO) of the Magnox Ltd and Research Sites Restoration Limited nuclear site licence companies on 1 September 2014. Since then there have been no significant proposals for organisational changes at Berkeley (noting that site stakeholder groups have already been made aware of changes to PBO posts within Magnox Ltd licensed nuclear sites). Should changes be proposed by CFP to ONR in the future, ONR will report on them in the following quarterly report.

## 4 REGULATORY ACTIVITY

ONR may issue formal documents to ensure compliance with regulatory requirements. Under nuclear site licence conditions, ONR issues regulatory documents, which either permit an activity or require some form of action to be taken; these are usually collectively termed 'Licence Instruments' (LIs), but can take other forms. In addition, inspectors may issue Enforcement Notices to secure improvements to safety.

- No Enforcement Notices were issued during the period.
- An LI was issued under licence condition 28(7) whereby ONR agreed to an extension of any interval specified in the site's plant maintenance schedule.

## 5 NEWS FROM ONR

### AMENDED LICENCE CONDITIONS

Amendments have been made to licence conditions 1 and 3.

Licence condition 1 (LC1, interpretation) provides a set of definitions. ONR decided to amend the definition of "radioactive material" and "radioactive waste" to ensure they are consistent with ONR's regulatory requirements. The changes were necessary because other legislation, to which the licence conditions were linked, had amended the definitions. LC1 was further amended to add a definition of 'property transaction', made necessary by the introduction of the new LC3 (see below), and a definition of "ONR".

Licence condition 3 (LC3, control of property transactions) requires the licensee to make and implement adequate arrangements to control property transactions on licensed nuclear sites. LC3 was prescriptive and required the licensee to obtain ONR permission ("consent") before it let, conveyed, assigned or transferred any part of the licensed site to a third party. It made no

allowance for the nuclear safety significance of transactions. Changes in the nature of the nuclear industry, with an increasing presence of contractors or other third parties on licensed sites, have resulted in growing numbers of LC3 applications, many of which have little or no nuclear safety significance. This has imposed an unintended regulatory burden on licensees and is an inefficient use of ONR's specialist resource and time. The principal change is to require the licensee to make and implement adequate arrangements that control all property transactions affecting the site and include provision for the classification and management of all property transactions according to their safety significance and their impact on the licensee's control of the site.

ONR's licence condition handbook has been updated and is available via the ONR website at <http://www.onr.org.uk/silicon.pdf>

### Application to relicense the Harwell and Winfrith nuclear licensed sites

On 28 November 2014, ONR received an application to relicense the Harwell and Winfrith sites into a single site licence company alongside the ten Magnox sites. ONR is currently assessing this application in accordance with the criteria contained in its publication 'Licensing Nuclear Installations'. The application includes a proposal to introduce a common Board and Executive structure, which is being trialled in a period of shadow working between 1 December 2014 and spring 2015. ONR is conducting a targeted and proportionate assessment of the applicant's organisational capability, including an examination of the Board and Executive changes.

Insight into ONR's work as an independent regulator of the nuclear industry can be found in ONR's Quarterly News. The online publication (<http://www.onr.org.uk/onr-quarterly-report.htm>) reports on the key themes and developments in each of ONR's regulatory programmes and provides an update about the on-going changes at ONR. <http://www.onr.org.uk/index.htm>. For the latest news and updates from ONR visit the website and sign up for our ebulletin (<http://www.onr.org.uk/ebulletin/index.htm>).

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