



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

Report for period 1 January – 31 March 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 for the Bradwell Site Local Community Liaison Council (LCLC) and are also available on the ONR website (<http://www.onr.org.uk/lc/>).

Site inspectors from ONR usually attend the Bradwell Site LCLC 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:

21 – 24 January 2014  
25 February 2014  
10 – 13 March 2014

The new incoming site inspector, who took over on 17 March 2014, also visited the site on 20 – 24 January, 25 February and 10 – 13 March as part of his site training and familiarisation. He also took part in joint inspections with the outgoing inspector during this period.

The ONR project inspector for Bradwell site also attended site on 20 – 23 January and was accompanied by ONR's head of specialism for radioactive waste on 20 – 21 January.

ONR's Principal fire inspector inspected the site on 26 March 2014.

An ONR radiological protection specialist visited the site on 20 March 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 Health and Safety at Work Act 1974 (HSWA74);
- the Energy Act 2013; 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 (site/station) covered the following:

Staff training qualifications and experience  
Emergency preparedness  
Decommissioning  
Radioactive waste management  
Plant construction and commissioning  
Management of operations including control and supervision  
Examination, maintenance, inspections and testing

In general, ONR judged the arrangements made and implemented by the site in response to safety requirements to be adequate in the areas inspected. However, where improvements were considered necessary, the licensee made satisfactory commitments to address the

issues, and the site inspector will monitor progress during future visits. Where necessary, ONR will take formal regulatory enforcement action to ensure that appropriate remedial measures are implemented to reasonably practicable timescales.

The ONR site inspectors also attended the emergency exercise review meeting to review progress with actions from the last level 1 emergency exercise and to agree the scenario for this years level 1 emergency exercise.

## **2.2 Other work**

The ONR Site Inspectors also attended the Bradwell joint regulatory project update meetings with the Environment Agency held on 23 January and 25 February 2014. These meetings allow the regulators to keep abreast of the decommissioning programmes and to ensure that we are able to exert regulatory control and influence, where needed.

The ONR project inspector, accompanied by ONR's head of radioactive waste specialism, attended a meeting with Magnox to discuss the conditioning and long term storage of intermediate level waste at Bradwell on 20 – 21 January 2014. The purpose of the meeting was to share the sites proposals and timescales for waste conditioning prior to ONR agreeing to routine conditioning of the ILW wastes at Bradwell. This decision is expected in the next quarter.

The ONR project inspector also attended a joint inspection with the Environment Agency to review how Magnox complies with the Radioactive Waste Management Directorate's "Letter of Compliance" process for assessing radioactive waste packages as suitable for long term storage in a future Geological Disposal Facility. This is part of an industry wide inspection including other Licensees. A report of the findings of this industry wide inspection will be issued in due course.

An ONR fire inspector checked the sites compliance with the Regulatory Reform (Fire Safety) Order 2005. He found overall compliance with the fire regulations to be acceptable but raised a number of minor issues that are being addressed by the site.

An ONR specialist radiological protection inspector visited the site as part of a rolling programme of inspections across all nuclear licensees to assess the dose to the public at the site perimeter fence. He concluded that this is properly assessed and managed by the licensee to be as low as reasonably practicable. A report of the industry wide inspections will be published in due course.

## **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.

There were no such matters or events of significance during the period.

## **4 REGULATORY ACTIVITY**

ONR inspectors, specialist inspectors and HSE inspectors 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 Licence Instruments or Enforcement Notices were issued during the period.

ONR continues to engage routinely with Bradwell on projects preparing the site for the care and maintenance phase. ONR has set formal regulatory hold points, which require LI agreements, on work relating to the reactor safe-store, the ponds, and Intermediate Level Waste (ILW) processing. ONR has also set a number of lower-level regulatory schedule hold points, which are cleared by letters of no objection, to facilitate this engagement. During this period a regulatory schedule hold point was released to allow the Fuel Element Debris (FED) Abatement Plant (part of the Aqueous Discharge Abatement Plant) to commence active commissioning.

## 5 NEWS FROM ONR

On 1 April 2014, ONR was established as a Public Corporation under the Energy Act 2013. As a result of our change in legal status, the way that we operate will evolve as we make use of the flexibility that the new status affords us. The Energy Act 2013 clarifies the legal framework for regulation of GB nuclear sites and the responsibility now rests firmly with ONR.

In addition, the legislative changes give ONR the powers to regulate conventional health and safety. This change to legislation will give us the necessary powers to continue to provide efficient and effective regulation of the nuclear industry, holding it to account on behalf of the public.

To support the launch of ONR as a Public Corporation, ONR has its own logo which will be used on all documents and other external communication media. Other changes include a new enforcement policy statement, a new website and email addresses, a new Annual Plan 2014/15, new warrants for inspectors, and new ONR branded personal protective equipment.

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 ongoing 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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