

Office for Nuclear Regulation (ONR) Quarterly Site Report for Hartlepool

Report for period 1st January 2014 to 31st 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 of the Hartlepool Power Station Local Community Liaison Council and are also available on the ONR website (<http://www.onr.org.uk/lc/>).

Site inspectors from ONR usually attend Hartlepool Power Station Local Community Liaison Council 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:

7th to 9th January
28th to 30th January
25th February
11 to 13th March

Specialist Inspectors made visits on the following dates during the quarter:

3rd to 5th February
5th to 7th March

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 Hartlepool Station covered the following:

examination, maintenance, inspection and testing;
management of operations including control and supervision;
staff training, qualifications and experience;
safety mechanisms;
modifications to plant, equipment and safety cases;
plant construction and/or commissioning;
emergency preparedness;
incidents on the site;
operating rules and instructions;
radioactive waste management;

Additionally, full system inspections were conducted of the gas turbine systems, the 11kV power supply and the guardlines.

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.

Issues connected to the emergency scheme manning were again experienced in this quarter. ONR inspectors are monitoring the station's ongoing response to these issues and are content.

2.2 Other work

The site inspector held a periodic meeting with the emergency planning consultative committee.

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.

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 LIs or Enforcement Notices were issued during the period.

5 NEWS FROM ONR

On 1 April 2014, the ONR was established as a Public Corporation under the Energy Act 2013. The Energy Act 2013 sets out the legal framework for regulation of GB nuclear sites by the ONR. In addition, the ONR has the powers to regulate conventional health and safety on GB nuclear sites. ONR now has its own logo, which will be used on all documents and other external communication media. Other notable changes include a new website and publication of an Annual Plan for 2014/15.

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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