



Office for Nuclear Regulation (ONR) Quarterly Site Report for Hinkley Point A

Report for period 01 January 2014 to 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 Hinkley Point A & B Site Stakeholder Group (SSG) and are also available on the ONR website (<http://www.onr.org.uk/llic/>).

Site inspectors from ONR usually attend Hinkley Point A & B SSG meetings and will respond to any questions raised there. Any person wishing to inquire about matters covered by this report should contact ONR.

1 INSPECTIONS

1.1 Dates of inspection

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

22 to 24 January 2014

25 to 27 March 2014

2. ONR specialist inspectors made inspections on the following dates during the quarter:

25 to 27 March 2014

2 ROUTINE MATTERS

2.1 Inspections

3. 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).

4. In this period, routine inspections at Hinkley Point A covered the following:

- Ventilation systems
- Decommissioning
- Incidents on site
- Control and supervision
- Ionising Radiations Regulations 1999
- Records

5. 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.

Ventilation system inspection

6. ONR carried out a ventilation system inspection. This inspection predominantly examined ventilations systems associated with the defuelled storage ponds; the pond water treatment plant and the ILW waste vaults.
7. Arrangements examined during the inspection covered the adequacy and condition of the ventilation systems; the control and supervision of operations; adherence to safety case limits and conditions, and maintenance.
8. The inspection confirmed that there was adequate implementation of the limits and conditions identified in the safety cases with respect to the ventilation systems examined. There was evidence that systems were being monitored and maintained as required to ensure safe operation, and maintenance records were found to be

9. 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.

2.2 Other work

10. ONR inspectors met with safety representatives during the quarter. ONR very much values the contribution of safety representatives to nuclear safety at Hinkley Pont A.

3 NON-ROUTINE MATTERS

11. 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.
12. There was one event of particular note during the period. On the 13th January 2014, during work to unblock a sludge transfer line, the licensee reported an incident to ONR following the spillage of a small volume of intermediate level waste (ILW) sludge within the sludge canning building. The licensee carried out their own investigation into the root causes of the incident and identified a number recommendations and actions. Once their investigation was concluded, ONR inspected the licensee's arrangements and examined the circumstances surrounding the incident.
13. ONR concluded that the incident investigation had identified shortfalls with the licensee's control and supervision arrangements. The licensee accepted that a review of its arrangements against relevant good practice was required and promptly initiated the review.

4 REGULATORY ACTIVITY

14. 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.
 - LI No 505 was issued on 31 January 2014 agreeing to the management of change process for transition of new PBO staff into positions on the site.

Reports detailing regulatory decisions can be found on the ONR website at <http://www.onr.org.uk/pars/>.

5 NEWS FROM ONR

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>).

ONR is changing

16. 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.
17. 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.
18. 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.

6 CONTACTS

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