



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

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

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:  
11 to 13 November
2. An ONR specialist inspector made inspections on the following dates during the quarter:  
12 and 13 November

## 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:
  - Accumulation of radioactive waste;
  - Disposal of radioactive waste;
  - Leakage and escape of radioactive material and radioactive waste;
  - Emergency arrangements and annual Level 1 Exercise
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.
6. The annual level 1 on-site emergency exercise was assessed by ONR inspectors on the 13 November. The exercise was judged to be an adequate demonstration of the licensee's emergency arrangements as required by licence condition 11. The licensee recognised that one area of their emergency arrangements requires some further improvement and they have volunteered to carry out a further contamination control themed exercise during the first quarter of 2015.
7. The inspections associated with radioactive waste were jointly carried out with the Environment Agency Nuclear Regulator.
8. In general, ONR judged the arrangements made and implemented by the site in response to safety requirements to meet the required safety standards in the areas inspected.

## 2.2 Other work

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

## 3 NON-ROUTINE MATTERS

10. 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.

ONR were notified of an incident which occurred on the 21 November where the licensee observed leakage from an Intermediate Bulk Container containing mobile Intermediate Level Waste.. The container was located in an area which provided secondary containment and evidence suggested the leakage was slow, seeping from a flanged joint. The licensee relocated the containers and cleaned the area of any residue and confirmed there was no further leakage. ONR judged the response by the licensee adequate and is awaiting the outcome of the licensee's investigation report.

## 4 REGULATORY ACTIVITY

11. 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 Licence Instruments or enforcement notices were issued during the period.

On the 1 October 2014 variations came into force reflecting the standard amendments made to Licence Conditions 1 and 3 (See Section 5 for details).

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

## 5 NEWS FROM ONR

12. 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>).

### Amended licence conditions

13. Amendments have been made to the standard nuclear site licence conditions 1 and 3 as summarised below.
14. 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.
15. 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.

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

## 6 CONTACTS

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