



# Office for Nuclear Regulation (ONR) Quarterly Site Report for Hinkley Point B Power Station

Report for period 01 January 2014 - 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 of the Site Stakeholder Group and are also available on the ONR website (<http://www.onr.org.uk/llic/>).

Site inspectors from ONR usually attend the Hinkley Point 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

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

- 14, 15, 16 January 2014
- 28, 29, 30 January 2014
- 11, 12, 13 February 2014
- 4, 5, 6 March 2014

2. In addition ONR specialist inspectors undertook inspections on the following dates during the quarter:

- 14, 15, 30 January 2014
- 11 February 2014
- 4, 5 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. 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.

5. In this period, routine inspections of Hinkley Point B covered the following:

- examination, maintenance, inspection and testing;
- management of operations including control and supervision;
- staff training, qualifications and experience;
- emergency preparedness;
- radiological protection;
- organisational changes;
- operating instructions and operating rules
- safety mechanisms devices and circuits
- COMAH (control of major accident hazards)
- radiofrequency interference

6. In addition, the following systems were inspected:

- reactor safety systems
- decay store

### Level 1, Shift Emergency Exercise

7. On 28 January I observed the shift exercise “Bing”. I judged the scenario for the shift emergency exercise to be a challenging one that incorporated elements of nuclear safety, chemical spillage, seismic events and security matters. It was a useful learning opportunity for the site ahead of the level 1 demonstration exercise scheduled for later this year. Overall I judged the exercise to be a satisfactory demonstration of the site emergency arrangements.

### Conventional Health and Safety

8. The ONR Conventional Health and Safety Inspector raised the issue of crane access points in the turbine hall which posed a risk of an operator fall from height. Site responded by immediately taking all of the crane access points out of use with immediate effect until full assessment and adequate control measures could be fitted. The ONR Conventional Health and Safety Inspector concluded that, apart from the crane access issue, standards were excellent across the site.

### Fire Inspection

9. The ONR Fire Inspector carried out an inspection to assess compliance with the Regulatory Reform (Fire Safety) Order 2005. Hinkley Point B achieved a very good score during the last audit of fire safety management and arrangements. The ONR Fire Inspector found that the high standards were being maintained and witnessed many examples of proactive fire safety management. He concluded that there were no deficiencies that seriously impact on fire safety and that no additional regulatory action was needed over and above the planned interventions as set out in the Integrated Intervention Strategy.

### Control of Major Accident Hazards (COMAH)

10. The COMAH Regulations are enforced by the Competent Authority which on this occasion comprised two HSE inspectors from the HSE Hazardous Installations Directorate and the Environment Agency nominated inspector. COMAH applies mainly to the chemical industry, but the Hinkley Point B site qualifies due to its stocks of Hydrazine, Ammonia and fuel oil (kerosene and diesel). No significant concerns were raised as part of the inspection and a number of actions and recommendations were made to further enhance compliance with the COMAH Regulations.

### Reactor Cooling Water Event

11. An INES 1 event (INF1 2013/391 – Reactor Cooling Water) was reported to the last SSG meeting. The event was associated with a valve on the Reactor Cooling Water system that was closed when its normal position should be open. The valve misalignment was traced back to when maintenance work was carried out but the valve was not re-opened after being closed. There were no immediate consequences but the misalignment could have affected Reactor Cooling Water supply following a loss of a supply leg. The valve was moved to its correct position and the licensee began an investigation to determine the cause of the event. That investigation is now complete. I have reviewed the investigation report and discussed the event in detail with the site. The significance of the event has been highlighted and action has been taken to improve the control of plant configuration. I was satisfied that the licensee had carried out a thorough investigation which addressed my concerns and that appropriate action had been implemented to improve the future control and monitoring of plant configuration.
12. 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.

### 3 NON-ROUTINE MATTERS

13. 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.
14. There were no such matters or events of significance during the period.

### 4 REGULATORY ACTIVITY

15. 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.

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

### 5 NEWS FROM ONR

17. 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

18. 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.

### 6 CONTACTS

Office for Nuclear Regulation  
Redgrave Court  
Merton Road  
Bootle  
Merseyside  
L20 7HS

website: [www.onr.org.uk](http://www.onr.org.uk)  
email: [ONREnquiries@onr.gsi.gov.uk](mailto:ONREnquiries@onr.gsi.gov.uk)

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