



# Office for Nuclear Regulation (ONR) Quarterly Site Report for Hunterston B

Report for period 01 April 2014 to 30 June 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 Hunterston Site Stakeholder Group [SSG] and are also available on the ONR website (<http://www.onr.org.uk/lrc/>).

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

## ONR is changing

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.

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## 1 INSPECTIONS

### 1.1 Dates of inspection

1. The ONR nominated site inspector made inspections, supported in each instance by specialist inspectors, on the following dates during the quarter:

22 – 25 April 2014

13 – 16 May 2014

09 – 12 June 2014

2. ONR's civil nuclear security [CNS] inspectors undertake quarterly inspections at Hunterston B. ONR CNS conducts one no - notice intervention during the financial year; this intervention has not yet taken place. Quarter 2 planned inspection was undertaken:

25 – 26 June 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 [although the Energy Act acquired Royal Assent in December 2013, inspectors did not commence regulation under that Act until 01 April 2014.
  - 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 (site/station) covered the following:
  - operating rules;
  - operating instructions;
  - organisational capability
  - safety mechanisms, devices and circuits;
  - Instructions to persons on the site;
  - examination, inspection, maintenance and testing;
  - leakage and escape of radioactive material and radioactive waste
  - duly authorised and other suitably qualified and experienced persons;

6. 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.
7. In addition to ONR's compliance inspections based on the conditions attached to a licence, ONR inspectors also inspect operating reactors based on their safety related systems. Each site has a safety case that demonstrates how it operates safely. For advanced gas cooled reactors, each of approximately thirty key systems will be inspected against the claims made upon them by the safety case. The aim is to systematically inspect all the significant safety related systems within a five-year cycle (six per year). ONR believes that this will provide more robust assurances of the site's safe operation and how the safety case is being implemented.
8. During this quarter ONR undertook a Systems Inspection of the Reactor Auxiliary Cooling Water System. Inspectors judged that this system met the requirements of the safety case, and compliance with associated Licence Conditions was judged adequate.
9. A team of ONR nuclear safety inspectors undertook an inspection of Hunterston B's readiness to recover a stuck fuel stringer from Reactor 4 during the statutory outage that will commence on 01 August 2014. ONR inspectors raised no nuclear safety issues that might delay or curtail the licensee's proposal for recovery. Hunterston B has formally requested from ONR permission to implement a modification that will allow, if necessary, an increase in loads to be applied to the stuck fuel stringer. ONR will permission this activity subject to a satisfactory assessment of the licensee's submission.

## **2.2 Other work**

10. The nominated site inspector held a periodic meeting on 14 May 2014 with safety representatives to support their function of representing employees and receiving information on matters affecting their health, safety and welfare at work.
11. Hunterston B undertook its annual Level 1 Emergency Exercise demonstration on 03 April 2014, attended by a team of ONR nuclear safety inspectors. ONR judged the exercise to have been an adequate demonstration of arrangements under Licence Condition 11
12. Hunterston B undertook a counter-terrorism exercise on 29 May 14, observed by ONR civil nuclear security inspectors.
13. The nominated inspector attended the joint Hunterston A and Hunterston B Site Stakeholder Group meeting held in Ardrossan on 05 June 2014.

## **3 NON-ROUTINE MATTERS**

14. 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.
15. On 13 May 2014 Reactor 3 was subject to a manual shutdown in accordance with station procedures. The reactor was safely shut down and satisfactory post trip cooling was achieved. The nominated site inspector will review the licensee's investigation report in accordance with arrangements under Licence Condition 7.

#### **4 REGULATORY ACTIVITY**

16. 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.
17. ONR issued on 12 May 2014 Licence Instrument No.541, Approval for an amendment to an existing Operating Rule under Licence Condition 23(5). This Approval came into effect on 15 August 2014.
18. No Enforcement Notices were issued during the period.

#### **5 NEWS FROM ONR**

19. 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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