



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

Report for period 1 October – 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 of the Oldbury Site Stakeholder Group and are also available on the ONR website (<http://www.onr.org.uk/llc/>).

The safety site inspector from ONR usually attends the Oldbury 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

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

- 20-24 October 2014
- 4-7 November 2014
- 4-5 December 2014

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 Oldbury covered the following:

- A system inspection of the defuelling route
- Suitably qualified and experienced persons
- Modifications on existing plant
- Operating rules and instructions

System inspections focus on the significant safety systems and structures derived from Oldbury's safety cases. ONR's system inspection of the defuelling route considered how the route's safety case was converted into arrangements for meeting relevant licence conditions. ONR found that the requirements of the safety case were implemented suitably in the arrangements. ONR also noted that Oldbury had made significant improvements in waste management in the pond area since the recent incidents in the area reported to the SSG previously.

Oldbury was inspected for compliance with licence conditions for modifications or experiments to existing plant, operating rules and operating instructions. ONR judged that the method used to control modifications and experiments to existing plant demonstrated compliance with the requirements of the licence condition and conventional safety. ONR found the operating rules and operating instructions used were appropriate to ensure defuelling of the reactors was undertaken safely and within the safety case parameters.

2.2 Other work

The site inspector attended the November Joint Site Stakeholder meeting (with the Berkeley Stakeholder Group), where he referred members to the third quarter's report.

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.

Matters and events of particular note during the period were:

During the level 1 emergency demonstration exercise at Oldbury in July 2014, although overall met the requirements of the safety case, it was apparent that improvements could be made by improving the interface between site personnel and the ambulance service and in respect of contamination control should there be an incident on site. A follow-up inspection was undertaken in November to see whether these improvements had been made. Oldbury demonstrated to ONR that they had addressed ONR's concerns. ONR noted how Oldbury could build on the improvements.

Cavendish Fluor Partnership (CFP) assumed full control as the Parent Body Organisation (PBO) of the Magnox Ltd and Research Sites Restoration Limited nuclear site licence companies on 1 September 2014. Since then there have been no significant proposals for organisational changes at Oldbury (noting that SSGs have already been made aware of changes to PBO posts within Magnox Limited licensed sites). Should changes be proposed by CFP to ONR in the future, ONR will report on them in the following quarterly report.

4 REGULATORY ACTIVITY

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 LIs or Enforcement Notices were issued during the period.

5 NEWS FROM ONR

AMENDED LICENCE CONDITIONS

1. Amendments have been made to licence conditions 1 and 3.

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. LC1 was further amended to add a definition of 'property transaction', made necessary by the introduction of the new LC3 (see below), and a definition of "ONR".

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.

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

Application to relicense the Harwell and Winfrith nuclear licensed sites

On 28 November 2014, ONR received an application to relicense the Harwell and Winfrith sites into a single site licence company alongside the ten Magnox sites. ONR is currently assessing this application in accordance with the criteria contained in its publication 'Licensing Nuclear Installations'. The application includes a proposal to introduce a common Board and Executive structure, which is being trialled in a period of shadow working between 1 December 2014 and spring 2015. ONR is conducting a targeted and proportionate assessment of the applicant's organisational capability, including an examination of the Board and Executive changes.

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 on-going 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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