



Office for Nuclear Regulation (ONR) Quarterly Site Report for Sizewell A

Report for period 1 January 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 Sizewell SSG and are also available on the ONR website (<http://www.onr.org.uk/llc/>).

Site inspectors from ONR usually attend Sizewell SSG 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 to 23 January
- 27 to 30 January (including Level 1 exercise on 30 January)
- 3 to 6 March

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 Sizewell A covered the following:

- Operating rules and instructions. The licensee's process for ensuring compliance with ONR-approved operating rules, and for managing changes to those rules, were considered to be adequate. The licensee has a detailed suite of operating instructions for activities that may affect safety, and these are well-reviewed and kept up to date.
- Safety mechanisms, devices and circuits. The licensee has arrangements for ensuring that safety mechanisms, devices and circuits are identified in safety cases and maintained under the control of its maintenance schedule. In practice, the licensee has few such mechanisms, devices or circuits now that the plant has shut down and is no longer dependent on cooling, either in the reactors or the ponds. Nevertheless, such items as there are feature on the maintenance schedule and have been maintained as require.
- Examination, maintenance, inspection and testing. An inspection was carried out of the licensee's process for declaring plant unavailable, for example in cases where it has not been maintained as required by the maintenance schedule. Comparatively little plant is declared unavailable in this manner, and most of it is plant that is no longer required (and so will not be returned to service).
- Incidents on the site. The licensee has and is implementing adequate arrangements for the investigation of events on the site
- Radioactive waste management. A joint inspection (with the Environment Agency) was conducted, looking at the licensee's arrangements for the accumulation and storage of low level waste (LLW). In general, the arrangements are adequate. However, the inspection revealed that there was

- no safety case for one of the facilities, which is a shortfall in the arrangements for compliance with the site licence.
- Quality assurance and records. The licensee has an effective independent assessment programme in place on site, and has built self assessment into its working processes. The licensee’s processes for the identification and storage of records meet the requirements of our guidance.

An inspection of the implementation of the safety case for storage of spent fuel in the spent fuel pond was also carried out. I consider that the licensee has sufficient engineered and administrative controls in place to ensure compliance with its safety case for the spent fuel pond, and that the engineered controls are maintained appropriately

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. In particular, on discovering that there was no safety case for the storage of LLW in one specific location, ONR required a justification to be produced for continued use of that facility, and an investigation to be undertaken. Where necessary, ONR will take formal regulatory enforcement action to ensure that appropriate remedial measures are implemented to reasonably practicable timescales.

The site held its annual demonstration emergency exercise on 30 January. ONR judged the exercise to be an adequate demonstration of the site’s arrangements. The site had demonstrably addressed all the issues raised by ONR following the previous year’s demonstration exercise.

2.2 Other work

The site inspector held periodic meetings with safety representatives, to support their function of representing employees and receiving information on matters affecting their health, safety and welfare at work.

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.

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

4 REGULATORY ACTIVITY

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.

LIs were issued for all Magnox Limited sites in this period, to permission the proposed organisational changes resulting from the Magnox Limited parent body organisation (PBO) competition transition.

- The following LI was issued during the period:

Table 1

Licence Instruments and Enforcement Notices Issued by ONR during this period

Date	Type	Ref No	Description
31/01/14	Agreement	507	Agreement to management of change for the Magnox Limited PBO competition transition

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

5 NEWS FROM ONR

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>).

6 CONTACTS

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