



Office for Nuclear Regulation (ONR) Quarterly Site Report for Urenco UK Limited Capenhurst

Report for period 1 April – 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 of the Urenco UK Limited Local Liaison Committee and are available on the ONR website (<http://www.onr.org.uk/lc/>).

Site inspectors from ONR usually attend the Urenco UK Limited Local Liaison Committee meetings and will respond to any questions raised there. Any person wishing to inquire about matters covered by this report should contact ONR.

TABLE OF CONTENTS

1	INSPECTIONS	3
2	ROUTINE MATTERS	3,4,5
3	NON-ROUTINE MATTERS	5
4	REGULATORY ACTIVITY	5
5	NEWS FROM ONR	6
6	CONTACTS	6

1 INSPECTIONS

1.1 Dates of inspection

The ONR Site Inspector and other ONR Inspectors conducted interventions on the following dates during the quarter:

April	3, 9, 10, 15, 16 & 24
May	14, 27 & 30
June	2, 4, 18, 23 & 26

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 the Urenco UK Limited licensed site covered the following:

Nuclear Safety Case.

Aspects of the nuclear safety case, justifying the nuclear chemical processes being proposed at the Tails Management Facility, (TMF), currently under construction on the licensed site, were inspected by ONR and HSE Hazardous Installations Directorate, (HID), inspectors, at a meeting held with the licensee on 5 June. The licensee readily agreed to develop part of the nuclear safety case, in order to prepare a justification for the preferred choice of chemical process. The provision by the licensee of parts of the TMF safety cases, relating to engineering substantiation, are currently overdue and are now delaying ONR assessment.

Aspects of the proposed process to develop a safety case for a Legacy Cylinder Facility, planned to be built on the Capenhurst Nuclear Services Limited (CNS) tenant occupied part of the licensed site, were discussed with CNS and the licensee at a meeting on 26 June. The proposed safety case preparation programme was considered acceptable.

Also on 26 June, CNS and the licensee presented preliminary outline proposals to ONR, for the potential storage of defuelled submarine reactor pressure vessels, should Capenhurst be selected by the Ministry of Defence as a site for the interim storage of defuelled reactor pressure vessels, in the future. These preliminary proposals were considered feasible.

Emergency Preparedness.

The licensee demonstrated the arrangements for dealing with an 'off site' emergency, during a "Level Two" emergency exercise, observed by ONR inspectors, on 9 April. This demonstration was assessed as having an acceptable outcome, with a number of minor areas for improvement.

An ONR specialist emergency arrangements inspector provided regulatory advice at the Emergency Planning Consultative Committee meeting held at site on 30 May, at which the key learning points arising from the 'off site' emergency exercise were discussed with emergency planning staff from the licensee, the local authority and the 'blue light' emergency services.

Organisational Capability.

An ONR specialist inspector conducted site interventions on 24 April and 27 May, to inspect aspects of the licensee's implementation of licence condition 36 organisational capability arrangements, as the licensee was currently implementing a range of organisational changes.

ONR Transport Programme.

ONR Transport Programme inspectors are in the process of relicensing a number of package designs, which are important to the licensee's business. These relate to uranium hexafluoride transport. ONR Transport inspectors have held a number of discussions with the licensee and their supply chain to progress these matters. In June, ONR issued transport package approval certificates for uranium hexafluoride (48X & 48Y) packages, following a periodic reassessment by specialist inspectors.

ONR Safeguards Programme.

There have been four routine inspections of the licensee during this quarter, none of which incurred any comments from the Inspectorates (both Euratom and IAEA). In addition, there have been two unannounced inspections, one during a routine inspection and one triggered by Euratom. These unannounced inspections also raised no adverse comments. ONR Safeguards are also organising a technical meeting between the licensee, ONR, IAEA and Euratom, on operational safeguards implementation at Capenhurst

Conventional Fire Safety.

An ONR fire safety specialist inspector inspected the licensed site on 10 April and 23 June, primarily to inspect the licensee's management of fire safety risks at the Tails Management Facility, currently under construction on the licensed site. The licensee has demonstrated improvements to conventional fire safety on the construction site, in response to the regulatory advice provided by the ONR inspector.

Conventional Industrial Safety inspections.

The ONR investigation into the live 11 kV cable strike event has been progressed during this quarter, with a number of site visits, which included the provision of regulatory advice at a meeting with the licensee on 14 May, where ONR provided the licensee with the interim findings of our investigation.

On behalf of ONR, HSE construction safety specialist inspectors have also inspected activities on the licensee's substantial Tails Management Facility construction site. On 2 June, a recent

live 415 volt cable strike event was investigated, with a broadly acceptable outcome. On 4 June, regulatory advice was provided to the licensee, the Urenco ChemPlants Limited tenant organisation and the construction contractors, during a site inspection of the arrangements for managing the safety of construction workers, following an earlier notifiable injury to a construction worker.

General comment.

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.

2.2 Other work

Meetings with the safety representatives.

Meetings are routinely held with the licensee's team of safety representatives and during plant inspections by ONR inspectors, 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.

ONR was promptly informed of relevant minor events on the licensed site during this period. ONR also participated in a constructive periodic regulatory liaison meeting, between the regulators and the licensee, addressing recent minor events, a range of nuclear safety performance metrics and other regulatory topics, held on 18 June.

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.

No enforcement notices were issued in this period. No Licence Instruments were issued in this period:

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

5 NEWS FROM ONR

- 5.1. 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 at (<http://www.onr.org.uk/ebulletin/index.htm>).

6 CONTACTS

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