



# Office for Nuclear Regulation (ONR) Quarterly Site Report for Winfrith

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

Site inspectors from ONR usually attend Winfrith 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.

## 1 INSPECTIONS

### 1.1 Dates of inspection

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

3 – 7 March 2014

ONR specialist inspectors met with the Nuclear Decommissioning Authority (NDA), Environment Agency and Research Sites Restoration Ltd (RSRL) on 7 February to discuss proposals for the Winfrith licensed site interim end state.

## 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 (site/station) covered the following:

- management of operations including control and supervision;
- quality assurance and records;
- emergency preparedness

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.

ONR security and nuclear safety inspectors observed the deferred Level 1/Counter Terrorist exercise "Albatross" originally due to be undertaken in November 2013 and cancelled the day before by RSRL due to a number of apparent weaknesses in the preparation and planning of the exercise. The exercise was deemed to be a good demonstration of the emergency arrangements and the preparation was much improved when compared to the exercise that was postponed in November 2013. No significant observations arose, although there were three matters that the learning from which need to be addressed sufficiently promptly to support ONR's expectation that witnessing of site emergency and Counter Terrorist exercises can be undertaken biennially rather than annually.

## 2.2 Other work

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

The meeting held by RSRL on 7 February 2014 provided ONR and other stakeholders with the results of its consideration of the options for a strategy for Winfrith interim and final end state. In summary RSRL propose to de-licence a significant amount of the site on reaching the interim end state in 2021 but anticipate a number of island site that may remained licensed until residual contamination has decayed to an acceptable level. ONR confirmed that these proposals would be broadly acceptable.

## 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.

The following LI has been 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	Licence Instrument 517	Agreement to the management of change for transition to a new Parent Body Organisation. The Agreement has been issued based on RSRL's proposal for the management of the organisational changes associated with the transition to a new PBO. This covers the one-for-one replacement of up to five of the seven members of the executive team (nominated secondees from the PBO) and two members of the Board (appointed by the PBO). There are no changes to organisational structures, staffing levels, responsibilities, management system arrangements or lifetime plans.

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

## 5 NEWS FROM ONR

ONR is changing

On 1 April 2014, ONR was established as a Public Corporation under the Energy Act 2013. As a result of our change in legal status, the way that we operate will evolve as we make use of the flexibility that the new status affords us. The **Energy Act 2013** clarifies the legal framework for regulation of GB nuclear sites and the responsibility now rests firmly with ONR.

In addition, the legislative changes give ONR the powers to regulate conventional health and safety. This change to legislation will give us the necessary powers to continue to provide efficient and effective regulation of the nuclear industry, holding it to account on behalf of the public.

To support the launch of ONR as a Public Corporation, ONR has its own logo which will be used on all documents and other external communication media. Other changes include a new enforcement policy statement, a new website and email addresses, a new Annual Plan 2014/15, new warrants for inspectors, and new ONR branded personal protective equipment.

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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Published 04/14

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