



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

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 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:

9 – 13 June 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 (site/station) covered the following:

- radioactive waste management;
- emergency preparedness;
- radiological protection;
- decommissioning;
- examination, maintenance, inspection and testing;
- management of operations including control and supervision;
- staff training, qualifications and experience; and,
- conventional safety.

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.

Systems Inspection

There is a requirement that over a 5 year period ONR will inspect aspects of the important systems for safety identified in the safety case for the installation it regulates. The aim of these inspections is to confirm that the safety functions outlined in the safety case are being adequately implemented through operational arrangements, limits and conditions and other claims as described in arrangements made under several licence conditions.

Inspections of this type are not expected to test the overall adequacy of relevant licence condition arrangements, but they are expected to test adequate implementation of those arrangements relevant to a particular safety system. ONR considers that this approach will

provide the necessary level of assurance that the requirements of the safety case are met and the site is being operated safely.

This quarter the safety system inspected was the Steam Generating Heavy Water Reactor (SGHWR) modular containment structures for decontamination and decommissioning. Based on the inspections carried out, the system was deemed to be operated and maintained in accordance with the requirements of the safety case.

Compliance Inspection

During March 2014 Research Sites Restoration Limited (RSRL) undertook a joint Level 1 Emergency/Counter Terrorist (CT) Exercise. The demonstration of emergency arrangements was considered to be adequate. No significant observations arose, although there were three matters which need to be addressed to support ONR's expectation that witnessing of site emergency and CT exercise can be undertaken once every two years rather than annually. In response to these observations, ONR witnessed a focussed exercise arranged by RSRL to demonstrate that improvements introduced to address these matters were successful. In general the exercise demonstrated prompt call-out and establishment of the Site Emergency Control Centre; the decision time to lock-down the site was reduced; and revised arrangements for communicating completion of staff accountability and security sweeps by site facilities were adequately demonstrated.

A number of plant inspections were undertaken by different specialist inspectors. None of these highlighted any specific concerns with the exception of some conventional safety issues identified in SGHWR and Dragon, which RSRL agreed to address promptly. In general all inspections within SGHWR commented on the high standards being adopted by the decommissioning project team at all levels.

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 ONR site inspector and ONR's superintending inspector for the Magnox and Restoration sites participated in the Annual Review of Safety (ARoS). RSRL provided overviews of their safety performance at Winfrith and Harwell identifying what had gone well, areas that had not been positive and plans for the following year with ongoing safety improvements. ONR confirmed that performance during the past year continued to improve and that inspections are providing evidence of a much improved safety culture within the organisation.

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 is one matter of interest to report during the period:

Change of Parent Body Organisation for Nuclear Site Licence Companies

At the end of March 2014 the Nuclear Decommissioning Authority (NDA) announced that the Cavendish Fluor Partnership (CFP) was the preferred bidder to take over the Parent Body Organisation (PBO) role at Magnox Limited and RSRL. A transition process is taking place until the end of August 2014, with CFP assuming full control of the nuclear site licence companies on 1 September 2014. In the interim, ONR and the environment agencies have been in dialogue with CFP and NDA to ensure that:

- The PBO will be ready to take over control of the ten Magnox Limited and two RSRL licensed sites;
- The PBO will have suitable persons in place to take up nominated roles at the sites;
- The sites will continue to comply with safety, security, transport, safeguards, and environmental regulatory requirements; and
- Appropriate consultation with the site licence companies is taking place.

ONR will provide further updates in future SSG reports on progress to complete the transition process and report on any significant organisational changes at the sites proposed by the replacement PBO.

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
15/7/14	Consent	Licence Instrument 519	<p>ONR has granted Consent, under Licence Condition 3, to the extension of a lease between RSRL and Tradebe Inutec. from 31 March 2015 to 31 March 2018.</p> <p>Tradebe Inutec has expressed an intention to become a nuclear site licensee. Having reviewed its future in the light of RSRL's intentions for site clearance and its own business predictions it has concluded that that it will need a nuclear site licence as a result of the storage of bulk quantities of radioactive matter. To guarantee some medium-term future for the business, this extended period will allow two things to happen:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provide Tradebe Inutec sufficient time to apply for, and for ONR to consider and grant, a nuclear site licence; • Allow Tradebe Inutec time to complete negotiations for the purchase of the freehold interest from the NDA. <p>The new lease has a rolling landlord's break option from 31 March 2017 (on 12 months prior notice), which will be conditional on Tradebe Inutec providing all of the necessary site licence documentation required for ONR to consider its application. If there is little chance of Inutec being granted their own site licence this date allows RSRL to recover the premises for inclusion in the site's Optimised Decommissioning Programme.</p>

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>).

Annual Report and Financial Position 2013-14

This report is a companion document to [HSE's Annual Report and Accounts 2013/14](#) and is intended to present our opening position both in terms of achievements and financial management, as we begin life as a public corporation. It includes the Chief Nuclear Inspector's Annual Statement 2013/14 on the safety and security of the nuclear estate and summarises ONR's judgements on the areas it regulates.

With this report, we are saying that all of the sites we regulate are safe and secure and are working to reduce hazards.

There is further work to be done at some sites, particularly Sellafield where we have a new regulatory strategy in place, and we are engaging with licensees to secure improvements in specific areas.

The report is available on the [ONR website](#).

ONR Strategy 2015-2020

ONR is seeking feedback on its new strategy, which provides vision and direction for ONR and nuclear regulation for the next five years. The consultation will run from 14 July to 6 October on the ONR website. ONR has a statutory obligation to have the new strategy in place by 1 December.

You can download the strategy via the public consultations page of the ONR website.

Communication of Enforcement Action

ONR is changing the way that it communicates enforcement action against licensees. With immediate effect, ONR will issue a press release to key journalists to communicate issue of prohibition notices (on the day the notice is issued), and improvement/other notices (after any applicable appeal period). The press release will be published on the [news centre](#) of the ONR website and via twitter, and will be reiterated in ONR's [Quarterly News](#).

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Published 04/14

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