



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

Report for period 01 July – 30 September 2015

## 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 Dounreay Stakeholder Group and are also available on the ONR website (<http://www.onr.org.uk/lrc/>).

Site inspectors from ONR usually attend Dounreay 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 and other inspectors made inspections on the following dates during the quarter:

13 July to 16 July 2015  
21 July to 23 July 2015  
10 August to 13 August 2015  
25 to 26 August 2015  
21 September to 24 September 2015  
29 September to 1 October 2015

## 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 Dounreay covered the following:

Safety mechanisms;  
Examination, inspection, maintenance and testing;  
Safety documentation;  
Organisational changes;  
Incidents on site;  
Industrial safety;  
Essential supplies.

#### **Safety mechanisms and maintenance**

The inspector considered DSRL's arrangements to demonstrate compliance with Licence Condition (LC) 27 (safety mechanisms, devices and circuits) and LC 28 (examination, inspection, maintenance and testing). Safety mechanisms are equipment needed to protect against potential significant plant faults identified in the safety case. All plant items identified as safety mechanisms are required to be listed on the plant maintenance schedule and are maintained at documented intervals by suitable qualified and experienced personnel. He considered the arrangements to be appropriate.

The inspectors looked at the implementation of the arrangements within Dounreay Fast Reactor (DFR), Prototype Fast Reactor (PFR) and the Fuel Cycle Area. They were able to confirm that the equipment they sampled was suitably identified and maintained

### **Safety documentation**

The inspector considered DSRL's safety case and periodic review process. He concluded that it is broadly consistent with our safety assessment principles and the technical inspection guide for LC 14 (safety documentation) and LC 15 (periodic review). The purpose of a periodic review is to determine the extent to which the nuclear facility and the safety case conform to modern standards and good practices. The licensee's procedures for periodic review allow for proportionate review of decommissioning facilities, taking into account predicted changes in use of those facilities.

### **Organisational changes**

A specialist inspector reviewed the site's progress in reviewing and revising its baseline organisational requirements, that is, to determine suitable and sufficient numbers of personnel to manage nuclear safety throughout the full range of the licensee's business. It provides the foundation from which organisational changes can be assessed. She concluded that the process for determining organisational requirements and management of organisational change were satisfactory.

### **Incidents on site**

The inspectors followed up the findings and actions resulting from investigations undertaken by DSRL into reported events. This included the dropped load within the PFR irradiated fuel cave and the corrosion of ventilation ductwork within the Fuel Cycle Area. They were of the opinion that incidents were being adequately investigated and corrective actions identified. An inspector also discussed the findings from an internal event reporting data trending exercise and considered it to be a positive step that could be built upon to support site initiatives to improve reporting culture and learning.

### **Industrial safety**

The new ONR conventional health and safety inspector visited the site to obtain a broad appreciation as to how conventional health and safety is managed. Topics covered included the management of asbestos and setting to work procedures. No issues arose from the inspection. Further information was also obtained on the RIDDOR reportable event where an apprentice sustained a finger injury while operating a three roll bender. The inspector was satisfied with DSRL's approach to the event and the actions arising from its investigation.

### **Essential Supplies**

The inspector undertook a systems inspection of the nitrogen supply systems for DFR and PFR against the requirements of LC 23 (operating rules), LC 24 (operating instructions), LC 10 (training), LC 27 (safety mechanisms, devices and circuits) and LC 28 (examination, inspection, maintenance and testing). He was satisfied that the nitrogen supply systems are being operated and maintained in accordance with their safety case by personnel who are suitable qualified and experienced for the task.

## **2.2 Other work**

ONR has continued to engage with DSRL on its safety improvement programme.

### 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 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.

**Table 1**

**Licence Instruments and Enforcement Notices Issued by ONR during this period**

Date	Type	Ref No	Description

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

### 5 NEWS FROM ONR

#### RETIREMENT OF THE CHIEF NUCLEAR INSPECTOR

Dr Andy Hall, the first Chief Nuclear Inspector to hold this statutory office, announced his decision to retire from ONR in November 2015 and until his retirement he is taking a period of compassionate leave for personal reasons. The ONR Board, with the approval of the Secretary of State, has appointed Dr Richard Savage as Acting Chief Nuclear Inspector, pending a process to fill the role on a permanent basis. Richard was previously Head of the Defence Nuclear Safety Regulator before joining ONR in his current role as a Deputy Chief Nuclear Inspector.

#### REGULATION MATTERS MAGAZINE

Insight into ONR's work as an independent regulator of the nuclear industry can be found in Regulation Matters. This quarterly online publication (<http://www.onr.org.uk/regulation-matters.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. For the latest news and updates from ONR you can also visit the website and sign up for our e-bulletin (<http://www.onr.org.uk/index.htm>).

## 6 CONTACTS

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