



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

Report for period 01 October – 31 December 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 to 14 October 2015  
19 to 22 October 2015  
9 to 13 November 2015  
7 to 10 December 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:

Modifications;  
Decommissioning;  
Storage of nuclear matter;  
Incidents on site;  
Operating limits and conditions;  
Operating instructions;  
Control and supervision.

#### **Modifications**

The inspector considered DSRL's arrangements to demonstrate compliance with Licence Condition (LC) 22 (modifications to plant and processes on existing plant). He looked at the process for moving between stages of a modification, and for the provision of derived powers and enhanced regulatory monitoring to support flexible permissioning. Flexible permissioning is used when it is not considered proportionate to use primary powers to effect regulatory control, but nevertheless it remains desirable in the interests of safety that ONR maintains a degree of control and oversight of a licensee's activities or proposals. The inspector considered the process was robust, and saw evidence of its application in all categories of modifications. It is clear who gives the approval for work to commence, and on what advice.

The inspector also sampled the implementation of the arrangements in the liquor storage facility and decommissioning fast reactor reprocessing facility and considered there to be a satisfactory demonstration of compliance in the development and control of modifications.

### **Decommissioning**

LC 35 (decommissioning) requires the licensee to have adequate arrangements for decommissioning plant and processes that may affect safety and for the production and implementation of decommissioning programmes. The inspectors considered DSRL's work to underpin the future site decommissioning programme and more specifically the reactors decommissioning programme. They considered that DSRL is giving appropriate consideration to safety and practicability in deriving its forward strategy and programme. Decommissioning and waste passivation activities in progress reflected ONR's expectations and supported the view that an adequate standard of compliance with Licence Condition 35 is being maintained.

### **Storage of nuclear matter**

LC 4 (restrictions on nuclear matter) includes the requirement to ensure that nuclear matter is adequately stored. The inspector looked at the storage arrangements on site and confirmed that the arrangements necessary for safety were adequately implemented.

### **Incidents on site**

The inspector sampled the implementation of arrangements for learning from experience (LfE) in Reactors Directorate and chose to focus on learning from minor incidents. The Directorate trends information and also delivers local training based on trends. It was able to provide evidence of how it identified a trend, delivered training and measured the success of that training. The inspector considered that the arrangements were being implemented adequately.

### **Operating limits and conditions and operating instructions**

The inspectors inspected compliance against LC 23 (operating rules) and LC 24 (operating instructions) in the Fuel Cycle Area Research Reactor Reprocessing Plant and Waste Processing Plant, DFR and PFR. Each plant had standing instructions available for inspection that detailed the operating limits and conditions derived from its safety case. The documents also identified the operating instructions through which compliance could be demonstrated. The inspectors sampled the operating instructions and confirmed that the limits and conditions were clearly stated and that they included steps to be taken to demonstrate and record compliance. The inspectors considered that there was an adequate standard of compliance with licence conditions 23 and 24.

### **Control and supervision**

During the above inspections the inspectors also spoke with supervisory staff about plant operations and their application of control and supervision. They also sampled training records. The inspectors considered that it had been demonstrated that the operations sampled were undertaken under the control of suitably qualified and experienced personnel.

## **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.

The following LIs were issued during the period:

**Table 1**

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

Date	Type	Ref No	Description
23/11/2015	Agreement	LI 520	Agreement to installation and in-active commissioning of the UFCF mezzanine floor
14/12/2015	Approval	LI 521	Approval of revised Dounreay Emergency Plan

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

### 5 NEWS FROM ONR

#### **CHIEF EXECUTIVE**

Adrienne Kelbie has been appointed Chief Executive of ONR and will take up the appointment on 18 January 2016. Adrienne is currently the Chief Executive of the Disclosure and Barring Service, and prior to this has had a varied career including periods as Deputy Chief Executive in a local authority and as Director of Operations responsible for national and international funding at the Big Lottery Fund.

#### **CHIEF NUCLEAR INSPECTOR**

ONR is currently recruiting for its Chief Nuclear Inspector. The Chief Nuclear Inspector has the key role in providing assurance on the effectiveness of the UK's nuclear regulatory system to the ONR Board, ministers, licensees and the British public and will represent ONR nationally and internationally. The closing date for applications was Sunday 17 January 2016 and further details are available on the ONR website: [www.onr.org.uk](http://www.onr.org.uk).

#### **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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