



Office for Nuclear Regulation (ONR) Quarterly Site Report for Hartlepool Station

Report for period 1 April to 30 June 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 Hartlepool Power Station Local Community Liaison Council and are also available on the ONR website (<http://www.onr.org.uk/lc/>).

Site inspectors from ONR usually attend Hartlepool Power Station Local Community Liaison Council 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 made inspections on the following dates during the quarter:

21 to 23 April
12 to 18 May
1 to 5 June
22 to 25 June

Specialist Inspectors made visits on the following dates during the quarter:

12 to 18 May

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 station covered the following:

- Incidents on the site
- Warning Notices
- Staff training, qualifications and experience
- Modifications
- Ionising Radiation Regulations (IRR) Inspection
- Emergency Arrangements
- Commissioning arrangements

Full system inspections were conducted of the seawater systems. In response to previous system inspections Hartlepool have updated the refuelling operating rules and inspections and submitted the refuelling Nuclear Safety Requirement for Approval.

The IRR inspection revealed the staff on the power station demonstrated their knowledge of the radiological hazards posed by the work and the required precautions identified in the radiological risk assessment.

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.

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.

In accordance with ONR's integrated inspection strategy, system based inspections are planned on a 5 year cycle across all safety related systems. System based inspections of the gas turbines, carbon dioxide and back-up cooling systems showed the systems to be adequately meeting the needs of the safety case but ageing, and obsolescence are becoming relevant factors. Furthermore, a safety assessment provided by Hartlepool Station showed improvements in these areas are reasonably practicable. With a view to securing the long term resilience of these important safety systems, ONR have written to Hartlepool Station (and Heysham 1) requesting they furnish a programme to implement reasonably practicable improvements in these areas.

When safety issues arise on a site through plant inspection or safety assessments, ONR raise a formal record against licensee and track them on the "ONR Issues Database". This quarter Hartlepool Station completed work against highly ranked ONR safety issues relating to:

- boiler chemical cleaning,
- improved document management,
- instrumentation upgrading,
- new equipment to protect against boiler tube failure

Completion of these projects represents a considerable investment in the safety and resilience of Hartlepool's safety related systems.

To assure consistency across licenced sites and programmes ONR rotate site inspectors nominally every three years. From the 1st July 2015 the nominated ONR inspector for Hartlepool Station will be Colin Tait replacing the current nominated inspector.

4 REGULATORY ACTIVITY

ONR 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 LIs were issued in this quarter.

5 NEWS FROM ONR

ONR published its Annual Report and Accounts for 2014/15 on 29 June. The report details key developments during our first year as a public corporation including:

- progress against ONR's Annual Plan 2014/15, including the Chief Nuclear Inspector's annual statement on the safety and security performance of the nuclear industry
- details of management arrangements and how our resources have been utilised
- a summary of our governance arrangements
- the financial statements for 2014/15
- remuneration of non-executive and executive members of the ONR Board

- the Certificate of the Comptroller and Auditor General to the Houses of Parliament, containing an unqualified audit opinion

Insight into ONR's work as an independent regulator of the nuclear industry can be found on the ONR website news centre (<http://news.onr.org.uk>) and 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 ONR. 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>).

6 CONTACTS

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