



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

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

Site inspectors from ONR usually attend the Harwell 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.

## TABLE OF CONTENTS

1	INSPECTIONS .....	3
2	ROUTINE MATTERS .....	3
3	NON-ROUTINE MATTERS .....	3
4	REGULATORY ACTIVITY .....	4
5	NEWS FROM ONR .....	4
6	CONTACTS .....	5

## 1 INSPECTIONS

### 1.1 Dates of inspection

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

11 November 2015  
2 December 2015  
4 December 2015

Six specialist inspectors attended site on 2-3 and 9-10 December. This was to familiarise these inspectors with B462 operations to assist their assessment of the facility periodic safety review.

## 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 (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 Harwell covered the periodic safety review.

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.

### 2.2 Other work

The site inspector attended the Harwell Site Stakeholder meeting, which was held at Catapult Satellite Applications, Harwell on 4th December 2015.

## 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.

Matters and events of particular note during the period were:

Shipment of Depleted Uranium to Springfields

On 30 June 2015 Harwell consigned a shipment of Depleted Uranium to Springfields. On 19 October 2015 Springfields informed Harwell of a problem with the consignment in that greater than expected dose rates had been measured and the presence of caesium-137 had been detected. Harwell had not declared the presence of caesium 137 to Springfields in the consignment documentation.

ONR transport specialist inspectors have considered this event and following the application of ONR's Enforcement Management Model have concluded that the incorrect transport classification and packaging of the Depleted Uranium containing Caesium 137, was in direct breach of the law. This has resulted in ONR issuing an enforcement letter to Harwell. ONR is currently awaiting a response to this letter from Harwell.

#### **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.

Licence Condition 13(1) requires a licensee to establish a Nuclear Safety Committee (NSC) to consider and advise on safety matters. LC13(2) requires a licensee to submit to ONR for Approval the Terms of Reference (ToR) of any such NSC and requires the licensee not to form a NSC without such an Approval. ONR Approved new ToR for Harwell when these sites was relicensed.

In addition, LC13(11) allows the licensee to obtain consideration of, or advice on, urgent safety proposals (which would normally be considered by a NSC) in accordance with appropriate arrangements that have been considered by the relevant NSC and approved by ONR. Following relicensing it was necessary for ONR to grant new Approvals.

The following LIs have been issued during the period:

**Table 1**  
**Licence Instruments and Enforcement Notices Issued by ONR during this period**

Date	Type	Ref No	Description
23/10/15	Approval	LI 501	Initial Approval of Arrangements for Urgent Safety Proposals

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

#### **5 NEWS FROM ONR**

##### **5.1 Chief Executive**

Adrienne Kelbie has been appointed Chief Executive of ONR and took up the role on 18 January 2016. Adrienne was previously 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.

## 5.2 Regulation Matters magazine

Insight into ONR's work as an independent regulator of the nuclear industry can be found in ONR's Regulation Matters. The 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. <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>).

## 6 CONTACTS

Office for Nuclear Regulation  
Redgrave Court  
Merton Road  
Bootle  
Merseyside  
L20 7HS

website: [www.onr.org.uk](http://www.onr.org.uk)  
email: [ONREnquiries@onr.gsi.gov.uk](mailto:ONREnquiries@onr.gsi.gov.uk)

This document is issued by the Office for Nuclear Regulation (ONR). For further information about ONR, or to report inconsistencies or inaccuracies in this publication please visit <http://www.onr.org.uk/feedback.htm>.

© Office for Nuclear Regulation, 2016

If you wish to reuse this information visit [www.onr.org.uk/copyright.htm](http://www.onr.org.uk/copyright.htm) for details.

Published 01/16

*For published documents, the electronic copy on the ONR website remains the most current publicly available version and copying or printing renders this document uncontrolled.*