



# Office for Nuclear Regulation (ONR) Quarterly Site Report for Hinkley Point B Power Station

Report for period 1 April 2015 – 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 of the Site Stakeholder Group and are also available on the ONR website (<http://www.onr.org.uk/lrc/>).

Site inspectors from ONR usually attend the Hinkley Point 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 .....	4
4	REGULATORY ACTIVITY .....	5
5	NEWS FROM ONR .....	5
6	CONTACTS .....	6

## 1 INSPECTIONS

1. The ONR nominated site inspector made inspections on the following dates during the quarter:
  - 14 – 16 April.
  - 5 – 7 May.
  - 8 – 11 June.
  - 23 – 26 June.
2. In addition, ONR specialist inspectors undertook inspections on the following dates during the quarter:
  - 16 April (preliminary investigation into closure actuator ejection at the buffer store).
  - 5 – 6 May (system based inspection – fuel assemblies).
  - 9 June (annual level 1 emergency exercise).
  - 25 June (annual review of safety meeting).

## 2 ROUTINE MATTERS

3. 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).
  - Regulations made under HSWA74, for example the Ionising Radiations Regulations 1999 (IRR99) and the Management of Health and Safety at Work Regulations 1999 (MHSWR99).
4. 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.
5. In this period, inspections of Hinkley Point B covered the following:
  - Training.
  - Modification or experiment on existing plant.
  - Operating rules.
  - Operating instructions.
  - Restrictions on nuclear matter on the site.
  - Safety mechanisms, devices and circuits.
  - Examination, maintenance, inspection and testing.
  - Leakage and escape of radioactive material and radioactive waste.
  - Emergency arrangements.
  - Warning notices.
  - Control and supervision of operations
  - Meeting of the Site Stakeholder Group.
6. These inspections were carried out against eleven licence conditions.

7. In addition, the following activities were undertaken:
- **Annual review of safety meeting.** The 37<sup>th</sup> ONR annual review meeting was held at Hinkley Point B on the 25 June 2015. The purpose of the meeting was:
    - To provide ONR with a summary of the operation of the station over the preceding period, review performance against statements made at the previous annual review meeting and start-up meetings as appropriate and to provide a statement about the intentions for improved operation in the next period, covering matters which may affect safety on the site.
    - To highlight to ONR planned improvements and significant projects necessary in the interests of continued safe operation that will be undertaken in the longer term.
    - The information presented within the report was centred on four station focus areas (operational excellence, managing the asset, managing the organisation and protecting people and the public). The report also contained information relating to significant interactions which occurred between the Station and its main internal and external stakeholders during the period.
  - **System based inspection:** A system based inspection (SBI) of fuel assemblies was carried out during the period. SBI involve scrutiny of the safety case and supporting documentation to determine the adequacy of the implementation of the Licensee's arrangements as part of licence condition compliance. These inspections are generally undertaken with the support of specialists within ONR or external support contractors and are informed through a review of the safety case (including supporting references and records), discussions with station specialists, plant inspection, and sampling of documents and records. We concluded that the arrangements and their implementation associated with fuel assemblies met the requirements of the safety case which was judged to be satisfactory.
  - **Emergency exercise.** The annual level 1 emergency exercise was carried out on 9 June 2015. This was deemed to be a satisfactory demonstration of the on-site arrangements. The exercise was also designated as the annual level 3 demonstration exercise of the national emergency arrangements, and was judged to be a satisfactory demonstration of the off-site emergency arrangements.
  - **Information exchange meetings:** progress with the gas turbine fuel oil tanks, performance of turbine alternator 7, new Nitrogen plant, hot standpipes, pressure systems safety regulations, implementation of enhanced emergency arrangements on site and review of the ONR issues database were discussed.
8. Details of these inspections can be found in the Hinkley Point B Intervention Reports located at <http://www.onr.org.uk/civil-nuclear-reactors/operating-reactors.htm>
9. ONR judged the arrangements made and implemented by the site in response to safety requirements to be at least adequate in the areas inspected.
10. However, where improvements were considered necessary, the licensee made satisfactory commitments to address the issues, and the ONR nominated 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

11. 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 was one significant non-routine event during the period:
- ONR carried out an initial investigation into an event on the charge hall when a closure unit was ejected from a buffer storage tube whilst being lifted out by the charge hall crane from a de-pressurised buffer storage tube. A small amount of residual clean carbon dioxide was present in the buffer storage tube and was released when the outage closure actuator was lifted, this caused the closure unit to be ejected. There were no nuclear safety implications, no fuel was involved and nobody was injured. ONR confirmed that its concerns had been addressed in the EDF Nuclear Generation Ltd (NGL) internal investigation, which ONR considered to be a thorough investigation. ONR made use of its Enforcement Management Model to determine the appropriate level of regulatory response. In recognition of the thoroughness of the NGL investigation, the otherwise good site safety record and NGL's determination to make improvements, it was judged that it would be appropriate for a letter to be issued to the licensee outlining a number of safety improvements on site and the rest of the NGL fleet. The ONR nominated site inspector will continue to interact with NGL to ensure that progress is made in relation to the identified safety improvements.

#### **4 REGULATORY ACTIVITY**

12. 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' (LI's), but can take other forms. In addition, inspectors may issue Enforcement Notices to secure improvements to safety. No licence instruments were issued in this period.
13. Reports detailing ONR regulatory decisions can be found on the ONR website at <http://www.onr.org.uk/pars/>.

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

14. 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.
15. 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 on-going 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, 2015

If you wish to reuse this information visit <http://www.onr.org.uk/copyright>

Published 08/15

*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.*