



Office for Nuclear Regulation (ONR) Quarterly Site Report for TORNESS

Report for period 1 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 Torness Local Liaison Committee and are also available on the ONR website (<http://www.onr.org.uk/llic/>).

Site inspectors from ONR usually attend Torness Local Liaison Committee 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, accompanied by ONR specialist inspectors, carried out inspections on the following dates during the quarter:

27 to 31 July
17 to 21 August
14 to 18 September.

ONR specialist inspectors carried out additional inspections related to the outage of reactor 2 on the following dates:

1 July
28 – 30 July
4 – 6 August
12 August
19 – 20 August

A superintending inspector also attended site on 18 and 19 August.

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 the 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 (site/station) covered the following:

- Control and supervision of operations
- Examination, inspection, maintenance and testing
- Health & Safety at Work Act
- Ionising radiation regulations
- Leakage and escape of radioactive material and radioactive waste
- Management systems
- Meetings with EDF's internal nuclear assurance function
- Modification or experiment on existing plant
- Operating instructions
- Operating rules
- Organisational capability
- Periodic shutdown

- Safety mechanisms, devices and circuits
- Training

Also, a system based inspection was performed by the ONR site inspector and a specialist inspector to review the arrangements in place for compliance with site licence conditions for the operation, use and maintenance of:

- electrical short break supplies

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 ONR 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

During this quarter, ONR's inspection and permissioning activities were principally focussed on Torness' statutory outage of reactor 2 which commenced on 10 July 2015. As part of the planned inspection activities carried out during the outage, a number of cracks were observed within the outer peripheral graphite bricks of the core. These bricks are positioned at the outer edge of the core, away from the area closest to the fuel, and are a unique feature to both Torness and Heysham 2 reactors.

EDF Energy Nuclear Generation Ltd (NGL) provided sufficient evidence to ONR to indicate that the cracking did not pose a challenge to the graphite core's safety.

ONR was satisfied with the evidence provided by the licensee and issued its formal Consent for the start-up of reactor 2 on 8 September 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.

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.

Licence Instrument number 537 was issued, under Licence Condition 30(3) on 8 September 2015 giving ONR's Consent to the start-up of Reactor 2 at Torness.

5 NEWS FROM ONR

Further 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/documents/2015/regulation-matters-issue-1.pdf> 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 visit the website <http://www.onr.org.uk/index.htm> and sign up for our ebulletin (<http://www.onr.org.uk/ebulletin/index.htm>).

6 CONTACTS

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