



# Office for Nuclear Regulation (ONR) Quarterly Site Report for AWE Aldermaston and Burghfield

Report for period 1 January to 31 March 2016

## Foreword

This report is issued as part of ONR's commitment to make information about inspection and regulatory activities relating to the Aldermaston and Burghfield sites available to the public. Reports are distributed quarterly to members for the Local Liaison Committee and are also available on the ONR website (<http://www.onr.org.uk/lc/>).

Site inspectors from ONR usually attend Aldermaston and Burghfield 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 inspectors carried out inspections on the following dates during the quarter:

- January 6, 11-14, 19, 20,22
- February 8-11,16,17
- March 3, 7-10, 22,23

## 2 ROUTINE MATTERS

### 2.1 Inspections at Aldermaston and Burghfield

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 36 conditions attached to the licence in order to ensure legal compliance. Inspectors seek to judge both the adequacy of these arrangements and their implementation.

In this quarter, routine inspections of Aldermaston and Burghfield covered the following licence conditions (LC):

- LC5 Consignment of nuclear matter
- LC7 Incidents on the site
- LC9 Instructions to persons on the site
- LC10 Training
- LC14 Safety documentation
- LC18 Radiological protection
- LC19 Construction or installation of new plant
- LC20 Modification to design of plant under construction
- LC23 Operating rules
- LC24 Operating instructions
- LC27 Safety mechanisms, devices and circuits
- LC28 Examination, inspection, maintenance and testing

ONR judged the arrangements made and implemented by the site in response to safety requirements to be adequate in the majority of the areas inspected.

Where improvements were considered necessary following inspections, the licensee made commitments to address the issues, and the inspectors will monitor progress during future visits. If necessary, ONR will take formal regulatory enforcement action to ensure that appropriate remedial measures are implemented to reasonably practicable timescales.

### 2.2 Other work

ONR specialist inspectors attended site in February to undertake a formal investigation regarding an AWE employee who received an electric shock in October 2015. The findings of the investigation will be considered against ONR enforcement procedures, and any enforcement actions will be reported on in ONR's 2016 quarter 2 LLC report.

ONR has previously written to AWE seeking assurance that the risks posed by operations at the Burghfield site are as low as reasonably practicable pending completion of the delayed ten yearly periodic review of safety (PRS2) of the site safety case. An interim justification document to support continued operations on the Burghfield site was under production during January to March 2016. ONR will review this justification in advance of the planned submission of the PRS2 documentation in September 2016.

ONR inspectors have continued to engage with AWE to assess the design and safety justification for enhanced flood defences at a legacy facility on the Aldermaston site, and ONR permission to commence construction of a concrete flood relief trench was given in March.

### **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.

Nil this quarter.

### **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.

Two LIs were issued by ONR during this reporting period following AWE's three yearly review of the Aldermaston and Burghfield on site emergency plans. In both cases, the LIs were approvals of minor typographical amendments.

LI 532 dated 21 March 2016, Approval of Aldermaston site emergency plan (Issue 5).

LI 532 dated 21 March 2016, Approval of Burghfield site emergency plan (Issue 5).

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

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Published 08/14

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