



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

Report for period 01 April – 01 June 2016

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 Local Community Liaison Committee and are also available on the ONR website (<http://www.onr.org.uk/lc/>).

Site inspectors from ONR usually attend Hartlepool Local Community 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 nominated site inspector made inspections, supported where appropriate by specialist inspectors, on the following dates during the quarter:

- 27-29 April
- 10-13 May
- 26-27 May
- 20-21 June
- 29-30 June

ONR's Civil Nuclear Security inspectors undertook inspections at Hartlepool Power Station intervention on the following dates:

- 28 June – 1 July

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 at Hartlepool Power Station covered the following:

- Competence of duly authorised persons appointed to control and supervise operations
- Emergency arrangements
- Organisational capability
- Incidents on site

In addition to our program of site licence compliance inspections, ONR also undertakes system based inspections which are intended to establish that the site's critical safety systems are effectively implemented and will fulfil their safety functional requirements. The overall aim is to systematically inspect the site's safety significant systems over a five year cycle. During the period, ONR performed system based inspection of the following systems:

- Emergency equipment
- Liquid radioactive waste

In general, ONR judged the arrangements made and implemented by the site 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.

In May, ONR inspectors took part in Exercise Jackdaw which was designed to test Hartlepool Borough Council's plan to protect the public in the unlikely event of an off-site nuclear emergency at Hartlepool Power Station. The exercise was supported by EDF Energy Nuclear Generation (NGL) personnel, the emergency services, local and national agencies and government departments. The exercise was observed by a team of ONR inspectors who concluded the exercise constituted a successful test of the off-site plan under the Radiation (Emergency Preparedness and Public Information) Regulations 2001 (REPPPIR).

2.2 Other work

The site inspector attended the Hartlepool Local Liaison Committee on 2 June 2016, and provided a verbal update regarding ONR's regulatory activities relating to the site.

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:

- In April, the licensee reported to ONR that planned examination of pipework within the Station's CO₂ storage plant had identified corrosion requiring parts of the plant to be taken out of service pending repair. The ONR site inspector undertook follow-up enquiries into the circumstances surrounding incident and was satisfied that the removal this equipment from service was permissible under the site's existing safety case. ONR will monitor the progress of these repairs and the progress of additional inspections of the CO₂ storage plant planned under the station's corrosion management programme.

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.

In April, ONR issued LI 558 granting agreement to the extension of the operating period of Hartlepool Reactor 2 until the unit's statutory outage planned to commence in June 2016.

ONR also issued LIs 559 & 560 which are associated with implementation of a revised approach to regulation of operating rules for operational nuclear power plants. The revised approach will require the licensee to seek ONR's agreement prior making significant amendments to operating rules whilst allowing any minor changes, typically of an administrative nature, to be undertaken by NGL. Further details of this revised approach are available on our website at: <http://www.onr.org.uk/documents/2016/reform-primary-powers-lc23.pdf>.

ONR issued LI No.560 on 25 July 2016 under Licence Condition 23(4), granting approval to implement a new single operating rule relating to conditions and limits of operation necessary

in the interests of safety. All previously approved operating rules were withdrawn as part of this approval. The revised approach will still require the licensee to seek ONR's agreement to any significant changes whilst allowing any minor changes, typically of an administrative nature, to be undertaken by NGL.

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

Date	Type	Ref No	Description
13/04/16	Agreement	LI 558	Agreement to extension of the Operating Period of Hartlepool Reactor 2.
23/05/16	Specification	LI 559	Specification under Licence Condition 23(4) requiring submission of operating rule for ONR approval.
25/07/16	Approval	LI 560	Approval of Operating Rule under Licence Condition 23(4) [and withdrawal of previous operating rule approvals].

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 Nuclear Inspector's annual statement

ONR published its Annual Report and Accounts 2015/16 on 7 July. As well as reporting on ONR's performance, the report includes the Chief Nuclear Inspector's annual statement, which provides a judgement on the regulatory attention necessary for each licensed site, dependent on the level of hazard and risk posted by the facility. The Annual Report and Accounts can be viewed on the ONR website.

5.2 New regulatory structure

ONR has recently reviewed its organisational arrangements to ensure that our regulatory structure is appropriately focused to deliver front-line regulation over the next few years. To maintain effective and proportionate regulation, and to address potential and actual imbalances in the current workloads of the programmes, we have created three nuclear safety programmes, each led by a Deputy Chief Inspector. These programmes are:

- A new reactors programme dealing with design assessment, licensing and construction of civil reactors.
- An operating facilities programme dealing with operating reactors, defence sites and other operating facilities.
- A Sellafield, decommissioning, fuel and waste programme dealing predominantly in decommissioning and waste.

You can view ONR's [organisational structure](#) and full [regulatory structure](#) on our website.

5.3 Chief Nuclear Inspector Summary Plan for 2016/17

The CNI Summary Plan outlines high level regulatory milestones to deliver ONR's Strategic Plan to 2020 and ONR's approach to the delivery of safety and security regulation across the UK's nuclear reactors and facilities. It was published on 11 July and is available on the ONR website.

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