



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

Report for period 1 January – 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 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/lrc/>).

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.

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1 INSPECTIONS

1.1 Dates of inspection

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

- 25 – 29 January 2016

The ONR site inspector attended meetings with Harwell on the following dates:

- 18 January 2016 – Oxfordshire Emergency Planning Coordination Committee
- 26 February 2016 - Emergency Arrangements Revision

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, a system compliance inspection on the containment employed in the B462 remote handled intermediate level waste process was completed. System inspections are focused on the site's critical safety systems and structures and are derived from the licensee's safety cases.

This system compliance inspection was carried out against the following licence conditions:

- LC10 Training
- LC23 Operating rules
- LC24 Operating mechanism, devices and circuits
- LC28 Examination, inspection, maintenance and testing
- LC34 Leakage and escape of radioactive material and radioactive waste

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.

Magnox has informed ONR that it intends to revise its emergency arrangements for Harwell. It has requested ONR approval of a proposed emergency plan. ONR has commenced its assessment of these proposed emergency arrangements.

2.2 Other work

The nuclear safety site inspector attended a regulatory meeting with the Environment Agency site inspector. This meeting provided opportunity to monitor and influence the progress and outcomes of the site's decommissioning programme.

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.

In this period the following incidents on the site were reported to ONR:

- ONR was notified that a contaminated item had been discovered in a supervised area.
- ONR was notified of an employee who fell and broke a leg whilst at work.

ONR is satisfied that the licensee responded to these incidents appropriately for both events, and no enforcement is considered necessary.

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.

No LIs or Enforcement Notices were issued during the period.

5 NEWS FROM ONR

Chief Nuclear Inspector appointment

ONR announced the appointment of Dr Richard Savage as its new Chief Nuclear Inspector (CNI) to lead our regulatory activity. Richard is a Chartered Engineer with an extensive background in nuclear safety and regulation. He served as Head of the Defence Nuclear Safety Regulator, Ministry of Defence, before being appointed to ONR as a Deputy Chief Nuclear Inspector in 2013. He was Acting CNI since Dr Andy Hall's retirement in November 2015.

ONR Strategic Plan 2016-2020

In March, ONR published its Strategic Plan covering 2016-2020. The plan sets out the factors that will influence our work and the assumptions we have made about regulating the nuclear sector in the next few years, as well as how we deliver the commitments we have made to the public, ministers and government, licensees, dutyholders and our staff. The plan was laid in Parliament on 22 March and can be viewed on the ONR website.

ONR's Regulation Matters.

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. 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

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