



Office for Nuclear Regulation (ONR) Quarterly Site Report for Oldbury nuclear licensed site

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 Oldbury Site Stakeholder Group and are also available on the ONR website (<http://www.onr.org.uk/llic/>).

Site inspectors from ONR usually attend Oldbury 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:

- 6-7 January 2016 – fuel-free verification inspection
- 29 January 2016 – discussion on the crane and flask incident
- 9-12 February 2016
- 15 March 2016

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 of Oldbury covered the following:

- Fuel-free verification inspections;
- Operating rules and operating instructions;
- Safety mechanisms;
- Incidents on the site;
- Leakage and escape of radioactive matter.

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. Where necessary, ONR will take formal regulatory enforcement action to ensure that appropriate remedial measures are implemented to reasonably practicable timescales.

ONR also observed an Oldbury emergency preparedness exercise that used the arrangements proposed for when the site is demonstrated to be free of fuel. This was judged to be an adequate demonstration of the site's proposed future emergency arrangements.

2.2 Other work

There was no other work to report for this quarter.

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.

- Oldbury reported that two bolts had been left in the lid of a flask containing ion sieves. When Oldbury tried to lift off the lid in the pond the force bent the two bolts. Oldbury successfully removed the bolts and moved the ion sieves for temporary storage in the pond. Oldbury believed that procedures had not been followed and investigated the circumstances and implemented corrective measures.

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.

- Magnox Ltd requested amendment of its arrangements made under LC6(1) and 6(2). ONR was satisfied that the proposed arrangements adequately address expectations set out in ONR inspection and assessment guidance and withdrew the approvals of the generic record preservation period.
- No Enforcement Notices were issued during the period.
- A letter was issued recognising that the site was free of fuel.

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, duty holders and our staff. The plan was laid in Parliament on 22 March and can be viewed on the ONR website.

Regulation Matters magazine

Insight into ONR's work as an independent regulator of the nuclear industry can be found in Regulation Matters. This quarterly 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 on-going changes at ONR. For the latest news and updates from ONR, you can also visit the website and sign up for our e-bulletin: <http://www.onr.org.uk/index.htm>.

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Published 4/16

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