



Office for Nuclear Regulation (ONR) Quarterly Site Report for Vulcan Naval Reactor Test Establishment

Report for period 01 April – 30 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 Dounreay Stakeholder Group and are also available on the ONR website (<http://www.onr.org.uk/lrc/>).

Site inspectors from ONR usually attend Dounreay 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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Vulcan Naval Reactor Test Establishment (NRTE)

The majority of sites inspected by ONR are licensed under the Nuclear Installations Act 1965 (as amended). Vulcan NRTE is not a licensed site although it operates under Authorisation from the Ministry of Defence (MoD) Defence Nuclear Safety Regulator (DNSR). The site is adjacent to the Dounreay licensed site and is regulated by ONR through other legislation as noted below. This report summarises ONR inspection and other regulatory activities associated with Vulcan NRTE which are co-ordinated with inspections by DNSR.

1 INSPECTIONS

1.1 Dates of inspection

The ONR Site Inspector made visits to the site on the following dates during the quarter:

14 to 15 June 2016.

2 ROUTINE MATTERS

2.1 Inspections

Inspections are undertaken as part of the process for monitoring compliance with the Health and Safety at Work Act 1974 (HSWA74); and regulations made under HSWA74, for example the Ionising Radiations Regulations 1999 (IRR99), the Radiation (Emergency Preparedness and Public Information) Regulations 2001 (REPPiR), and the Management of Health and Safety at Work Regulations 1999 (MHSWR99).

In June the site held its annual demonstration emergency exercise i.e. an exercise that concentrates primarily on the operator's actions and arrangements both on and off the site. As is the normal practice for such exercises on a MoD Authorised Site, ONR supported DNSR in assessing the exercise. ONR concurred with DNSR's assessment of the exercise being an adequate demonstration. This exercise was also the final component in a modular approach to testing of the off-site emergency plan and ONR has written to the Local Authority to confirm that the exercise constituted a test of the plan prepared under Reg 9(1) of the REPPiR regulations and demonstrated in accordance with Regulation 10(1)(b).

2.2 Other work

NRTE Vulcan has formally submitted to ONR a revised Report of Assessment (RoA) and Hazard Identification and Risk Evaluation, as required by REPPiR Regulation 5(2), on 7th June 2016. The reports will be jointly assessed by ONR and DNSR.

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 inspectors may issue formal documents to ensure compliance with regulatory requirements. No such documents were issued during this period.

5 NEWS FROM ONR

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.

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.

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.

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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