



Office for Nuclear Regulation (ONR) Quarterly Site Report for Hunterston B

Report for period 1 July to 30 September 2017

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 of the Hunterston Site Stakeholder Group (SSG) and are also available on the ONR website (<http://www.onr.org.uk/lrc/>).

Site inspectors from ONR usually attend Hunterston SSG meetings and will respond to any questions raised there. Any person wishing to enquire about matters covered by this report should contact ONR.

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1 INSPECTIONS

1.1 Dates of inspection

1. The ONR nominated site inspector made inspections, supported where appropriate by specialist inspectors, on the following dates during the quarter:

4 – 6 July 2017
9 August 2017
15 – 17 August 2017
19 – 22 September 2017
26 – 28 September 2017

2. ONR's civil nuclear security inspectors undertake quarterly inspections at Hunterston B. The quarter 3 planned inspection was undertaken on:

4 - 6 September 2017

2 ROUTINE MATTERS

2.1 Inspections

3. 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 etc. (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).
4. The inspections entail monitoring the 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.
5. In this period, routine inspections of Hunterston B covered the following:
 - Training
 - Duly authorised and other suitably qualified and experienced persons
 - Control and supervision of operations
 - Examination, inspection, maintenance and testing
6. These inspections focused on the upcoming statutory outage for Reactor 4 and examined the training and authorisation of persons appointed to perform and supervise those duties which may affect the safety of operations on the site. In general, ONR judged the arrangements made and implemented by the site in response to safety requirements to be adequate. 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.

7. In addition to our routine compliance inspections based on the conditions attached to the nuclear site licence, ONR inspectors also inspect operating reactors against safety related systems. Each site has a safety case that demonstrates how it operates safely. For advanced gas cooled reactors, each of approximately thirty key systems will be inspected against the claims made upon them by the safety case. The aim is to systematically inspect all the significant safety related systems within a five-year cycle (six per year). ONR believes that this will provide more robust assurances of the site's safe operation and how the safety case is being implemented.
8. During this quarter, one system based inspection (SBI) was undertaken on the station. This was an inspection of the emergency equipment which was carried out on 4 – 6 July 2017. This inspection focused upon the implementation of safety claims made against the station's emergency equipment. The inspection considered the training of personnel, technical specifications and procedures and maintenance of emergency equipment. The ONR inspection team considered that the station emergency equipment was being operated and maintained in accordance with the requirements of the safety case.

3 NON-ROUTINE MATTERS

9. 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.
10. Licence Condition (LC) 7 requires licensees to make and implement adequate arrangements for the notification, recording, investigation and reporting of incidents occurring on the site.
11. During this period, ONR undertook follow-up enquiries into an event that occurred in July 2017, in which the station did not comply with a technical specification required action to shut down the reactor within a specified period. The follow-up enquiries found that the event did not meet the ONR formal investigation criteria and the risk from the technical specification contravention was negligible. ONR did however issue a formal enforcement letter to note a contravention of a LC 23 Operating Rules requirement and to secure corrective action to address the causes of the event. These causes included a failure to identify linked technical specifications and the application of a reactive decision making process.
12. Reactor 4 was successfully and safely shutdown on 8 September 2017 for its three-yearly periodic shutdown, as required under LC 30. ONR is carrying out routine inspections during the course of the shutdown, which is ongoing. The ONR inspections seek to confirm that inspections and maintenance activities are in accordance with the agreed maintenance schedule; that inspections of the core and other plant support the claims made in the safety case; that plant safety improvements are made where reasonably practicable and remedial work is carried out to the satisfaction of ONR. On completion of a periodic shutdown, the reactor concerned cannot be started up without Consent from ONR under Licence Condition 30(3).

4 REGULATORY ACTIVITY

13. 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.
14. During this quarter, ONR completed its assessment of the safety case that justified the period of safe operation of Reactor 3. ONR wrote to the station on 19 September 2017

to confirm that ONR did not identify any issues that would challenge the station's intention to continue to operate Reactor 3 until March 2018; when the next planned core inspection is due.

15. No Enforcement Notices were issued during the period.

5 NEWS FROM ONR

16. The Office for Nuclear Regulation has appointed Mark Foy as its new Chief Nuclear Inspector, replacing Dr Richard Savage who will be stepping down after two years in the role for family reasons.

Mark's 30-year career has been spent working across the civil and defence nuclear industry, half of it as a nuclear regulator. For the last four years he has been a Deputy Chief Nuclear Inspector working on some of ONR's most significant programmes including Sellafield, decommissioning, defence and civil reactors.

ONR will soon launch its new newsletter containing the latest news and developments from across the organisation. If you would like to receive this, please subscribe on the [ONR website](#).

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