



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

Report for period 1 January – 31 March 2018

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 to members of 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 the Hartlepool Local Community Liaison Committee meetings where these reports are presented 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 inspectors undertook interventions at Hartlepool Power Station on the following dates during the report period:

- 9 – 12 January 2018
- 30 January – 2 February 2018
- 6 – 8 February 2018
- 20 – 22 February 2018
- 5 – 9 March 2018

2 ROUTINE MATTERS

2.1 Compliance 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 2017 (IRR17) and the Management of Health and Safety at Work Regulations 1999 (MHSWR99).

The inspections entail monitoring the licensee's (EDF Energy Nuclear Generation Ltd (NGL)) 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 Hartlepool Power Station covered the following:

- Examination, maintenance, inspection and testing
- Management of operations, including control and supervision
- Staff training, qualifications and experience
- Modifications to plant, equipment and safety cases
- Incidents on the site
- Radiological protection
- Conventional (non-nuclear) health and safety
- Security

In general, ONR judged the arrangements made and implemented by the site in response to safety requirements to meet the legal requirements 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.

No system based inspections (SBI) were undertaken in the first quarter of the year; this was in line with the five-year plan for SBIs. SBIs will resume in the financial year commencing April 2018.

2.2 Unit 1 Statutory Outage

ONR undertook a significant number of compliance inspections (see above) at Hartlepool Power Station in connection with the statutory outage, which ran from January to March. In order to restart Reactor 1, NGL requires ONR's consent to do so. ONR informs its judgement in this matter through the inspection and assessment programme undertaken and production of an overarching Project Assessment Report.

Inspectors from a wide variety of specialist disciplines were involved during the statutory outage; compliance inspections were undertaken by specialists from Control & Instrumentation, Electrical Engineering, Civil Engineering, Radiological Protection, Graphite, Structural Integrity and Conventional Health & Safety. The Project Inspector with responsibility for delivery of the regulatory work for the statutory outage also undertook an inspection and led the start-up meeting (preceding the ONR consent decision) in early March.

On the basis of inspection and assessment work completed, ONR issued the Consent necessary for the restart of Reactor 1 in March 2018.

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:

- On 22 March, during the return to service following the statutory outage, Hartlepool Unit 1 was manually shutdown following the automatic operation of the protection system associated with the conventional turbine and condenser. Initial fault investigations determined that a piece of foreign material, a large washer, had caused damage to the turbine blades and two condenser tubes. ONR considers the actions taken by the station in response to this event were appropriate and NGL has initiated an investigation. ONR will monitor the outcome of the investigation and any actions arising from it.

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 take a range of enforcement actions, including issuing an Enforcement Notice.

In March 2018, ONR issued Licence Instrument 564 granting consent to the start-up of Hartlepool Reactor 1 following completion of its statutory outage.

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

Date	Type	Ref No	Description
March 2018	Consent	564	ONR Consent for Start-up of Hartlepool Reactor 1 following 2018 Periodic Shutdown.

Reports detailing the above regulatory decisions can be found on the ONR website at <http://www.onr.org.uk/pars/>.

5 NEWS FROM ONR

In January, ONR received the results of its first external stakeholder survey, which was undertaken by YouGov on behalf of ONR. A broad range of stakeholders were invited to participate in an online survey, with 351 responses received. In addition to the online survey, a number of in depth interviews were also completed with stakeholders. While overall the results demonstrate ONR is seen as a high performing organisation with good levels of stakeholder confidence, there are areas where improvements can be made and we will be working on these in the coming months. Further details about the survey results can be found in our March 2018 newsletter, which is available on [ONR's website](#).

In February, ONR held its first webinar following the publication of the 'Guide to enabling regulation in practice.' Chief Nuclear Inspector, Mark Foy, and Deputy Chief Inspector, Mike Finnerty, were on hand to answer questions about the guide, which has been designed to illustrate working examples of enabling regulation in practice. This is a new channel of communication for ONR and we'll be holding further webinars on different topics over the coming months. If you would like to join future webinars, please get in touch with the ONR Communications team via contact@onr.gov.uk.

In March, ONR held the first of two meetings this year with representatives from across the NGO community. Held in Birmingham, the meeting was attended by 15 NGO representatives from 11 different organisations. Topics discussed included: domestic safeguards pending the withdrawal of the UK from Euratom; Emergency Planning Arrangements; and the ONR Stakeholder Survey results. The next meeting is scheduled to take place in October 2018. We are keen to increase the number of people engaging with ONR on nuclear safety and security issues and would like to invite members of SSGs and LCCs to join our engagement programme. For more details please get in touch via contact@onr.gov.uk.

6 CONTACTS

Office for Nuclear Regulation
Redgrave Court
Merton Road
Bootle
Merseyside
L20 7HS
website: www.onr.org.uk
email: ONREnquiries@onr.gsi.gov.uk

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