



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

Report for period 1 January to 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 for the Dounreay Stakeholder Group and are also available on the ONR website (<http://www.onr.org.uk/llc/>).

Site inspectors from ONR usually attend Dounreay Stakeholder Group 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.

TABLE OF CONTENTS

1	INSPECTIONS	3
2	ROUTINE MATTERS	3
3	NON-ROUTINE MATTERS	3
4	REGULATORY ACTIVITY	3
5	NEWS FROM ONR	3
6	CONTACTS	5

Vulcan Naval Reactor Test Establishment (NRTE)

The majority of sites inspected by ONR are licensed under the Nuclear Installations Act 1965. Vulcan NTRE 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 the inspection and regulatory activities associated with Vulcan NRTE, which are co-ordinated with inspections by DNSR.

1 INSPECTIONS

1.1 Dates of inspection

During this period no on-site inspections were undertaken by ONR.

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).

No on-site inspections were undertaken this quarter.

2.2 Other work

ONR is required to specify the REPPIR off-site emergency planning and prior information area under regulation 9(1) and 16(1) of REPPIR. It does this based in part on a technical assessment of the information provided in the Report of Assessment (RoA) and Hazard Identification and Risk Evaluation (HIRE) submitted by the dutyholder. As reported during the last quarter ONR has completed the technical assessment of the RoA and HIRE submitted by Vulcan NTRE and concluded that the reports provide a sound basis for the purposes of emergency planning. Work to determine the off-site emergency planning and prior information area has been ongoing during this quarter.

3 NON-ROUTINE MATTERS

Licensees / authorisees are required to have arrangements to respond to non-routine matters and events. ONR inspectors judge the adequacy of the licensee's / authorisee'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 may issue formal documents to ensure compliance with regulatory requirements. No such documents were issued during the period.

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 those 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

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