



Office for Nuclear Regulation (ONR) Site Report for Wylfa

Report for period 1 January 2020 – 30 June 2020

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

Site inspectors from ONR usually attend Wylfa SSG 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 (<http://www.onr.org.uk/feedback.htm>).

TABLE OF CONTENTS

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

1 INSPECTIONS

1.1 Dates of inspection

ONR inspectors attended Wylfa site on the following dates:

- 14th to 16th January 2020

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 2017 (IRR17) 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, ONR carried out the following inspections at Wylfa:

- LC 11 Emergency Arrangements
- LC 22 Modification or experiment on existing plant
- LC 23 Operating rules

ONR's focus during these inspections was on Wylfa's implementation of a re-baselined post defuelling safety case and subsequent deletion of Wylfa's only operating rule; and activities being undertaken in readiness for the removal of 24/7 operational shifts as part of Wylfa's contingency emergency arrangements transition (including physical modifications). ONR judged that Wylfa is effectively implementing arrangements for complying with LC 11, 22 and 23 and was making good progress towards being ready to remove 24/7 operational shifts.

2.2 Other work

During this report period, ONR continued its engagement with Magnox Limited's Wylfa senior leadership team to discuss Wylfa's proposed "contingency arrangements" following planned removal of 24/7 operational shifts at the Wylfa site. "Contingency arrangements" is the name given to the site's revised emergency arrangements which reflect the reduced nuclear hazard now that fuel has been removed from the site. On 18th March 2020, ONR gave its approval to Wylfa's amendment to its accident and emergency arrangements; effectively permitting removal of 24/7 operational shifts.

In October 2019, Wylfa wrote to ONR to confirm completion of its defuelling and fuel free verification milestone. This concerns Wylfa removing all fuel from site (reactors defuelled and fuel route verified to have no spent fuel present).

In response to the Covid-19 pandemic, Wylfa entered a controlled pause (quiescent safe-state) of its operations on 20th March 2020. Since then ONR visits to the site have been suspended as part of measures to reduce the risk of infection spread. However, ONR's nominated site inspector has maintained weekly contact with the site throughout the pause period by telephone to discuss regulatory matters, including: emergency arrangements resilience, workforce resilience, supply chain resilience, event reporting and Wylfa's return to work planning (including implementation of Covid-19 related health protection measures).

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.

In response to the Covid-19 pandemic, all 12 of Magnox Limited's licensed nuclear sites were put into a quiescent safe-state with all decommissioning and radioactive waste handling activities having ceased. This pause in operations allowed the number of personnel on site to be reduced to a level that some monitoring and surveillance of plant could be undertaken, such as periodically emptying sumps and checking ventilation systems, and that security can be sustained. The majority of personnel during this pause period were working from home. The site is currently undertaking work to ensure personnel can return to site in a safe and secure manner.

Emergency preparedness is maintained through a duty cover team at each site in accordance with ONR approved emergency arrangements. These arrangements include the provision to call in additional personnel and the emergency services onto site to assist Magnox Limited staff. These plans have been regularly rehearsed and observed by ONR inspectors during emergency exercises in the recent past. Magnox Limited has not reported any issues that may affect the site's safe status.

4 REGULATORY ACTIVITY

ONR may issue formal documents to ensure compliance with regulatory requirements. Under nuclear site Licence Conditions (LC) ONR issues regulatory documents which either permit an activity or require some form of action to be taken. These are collectively termed 'Licence Instruments' (LIs). In addition, inspectors may issue Enforcement Notices to secure improvements to safety.

There was one LI, and no Enforcement Notices issued during the period:

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

Date	Type	Ref No	Description
18/03/2020	Licence Instrument	574	Approval issued under licence condition 11(3) of Wylfa's revised accident and emergency arrangements (which allows Wylfa to remove 24/7 operational shifts). Approval came into force on 20/03/2020 at 10am.

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

5 NEWS FROM ONR

5.1 Covid-19

ONR is continuing to protect society by securing safe nuclear operations during the Covid-19 (coronavirus) pandemic. Our staff continues to work from home, in line with government advice, with a limited number of our inspectors, as key workers, travelling to site as necessary to conduct urgent and essential regulatory inspections. ONR's latest position can be found on our website.

Enforcement Action

ONR served an Improvement Notice on EDF Energy Nuclear Generation Ltd (EDF Energy) for contravention of the Pressure Systems Safety Regulations (2000) at Heysham 1 Power Station. The notice was served after shortfalls were discovered in the examination and inspection of the Reactor 1 pressure vessel at the Lancashire plant. EDF Energy must comply with the Improvement Notice and complete the eleven overdue examinations by 18 December 2020.

ONR has granted an extension to an Enforcement Notice served on Urenco UK Ltd, recognising the good progress made so far. The notice was issued in late December 2019, following a fire safety inspection at the Capenhurst Works in Cheshire, which revealed shortfalls in the fire alarm and detection systems at one of the site's facilities. Urenco UK Ltd must comply with the requirements of the extended notice by 30 September 2020

Regulatory Updates

ONR received an application for a nuclear site licence from NNB Generation Company (SZC) Limited, to construct and operate two EPR™ reactors, at its proposed development in Sizewell, Suffolk. We will now assess the application, partly informed by our previous assessment of the EPR™ at Hinkley Point C – including using the relevant lessons from that assessment, while focusing on aspects specifically relevant to Sizewell C.

Whilst we are satisfied that the application is sufficiently complete to proceed to assessment stage, there is still a lot of work to do – and we do not expect to reach a decision, until at least the end of 2021.

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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