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## **Radiation (Emergency Preparedness and Public Information) Regulations 2001**

### **Review of the Requirement for an Off-site Emergency Planning and Prior Information Areas**

#### **GE Healthcare Cardiff Nuclear Licensed Site**

Dear Mr Grover and Mr Orders,

As you may be aware ONR has been reviewing if there is a requirement, under the Radiation (Emergency Preparedness and Public Information) Regulations 2001 (REPPIR), for an off-site emergency planning area and an area within which GE Healthcare must provide prior information to the public around the Cardiff Nuclear Licensed Site (CNLS).

This process was initiated by the Report of Assessment (RoA), sent to ONR by GE Healthcare, which indicated there was no potential reasonably foreseeable radiation emergency arising from the operations at the CNLS .

#### ***REPPIR off-site emergency planning and provision of prior information to the public***

In accordance with the requirements of REPPIR regulations 5 and 6, GE Healthcare has reviewed its Hazard Identification and Risk Evaluation (HIRE) and submitted a RoA relating to the CNLS to ONR on 6<sup>th</sup> June 2014. ONR has completed its assessment of the RoA and produced a Project Assessment Report (ONR-COP-PAR-15-011 Rev 1, available on the ONR website).

ONR has concluded that the RoA satisfies the requirements of regulation 6(4) and Schedule 5 of REPPIR, concurs with GE Healthcare's findings that a radiation emergency (as defined in REPPIR) is not reasonably foreseeable at the CNLS and concludes there is no legal provision within REPPIR for ONR to specify an off-site emergency planning area for the CNLS.

Consequently; there remains no requirement under REPPIR Regulation 9(1) for Cardiff City Council to prepare, test and review a REPPIR off-site emergency plan and no requirement under REPPIR Regulation 16(1) for GE Healthcare to provide prior information to the public in respect of the CNLS.

#### ***Emergency Arrangements***

Whilst this review confirms there is no requirement for an off-site emergency planning area under REPPIR in relation to the CNLS, proportionate emergency arrangements for the protection of the public should remain in the form of;

- operators have general duties Under the Health and Safety at Work Act 1974 to ensure, so far as is reasonably practicable, the safety and welfare of employees and other persons;



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- operators under REPPiR regulation 4(2) shall, where radiation risks to employees or other persons have been identified during their HIRE, take all reasonable steps to prevent any such radiation accident and limit the consequences of an such radiation accident which does occur;
- operators who hold a nuclear site licence are required to make and implement adequate arrangements for dealing with any accident or emergency (under site licence condition 11 attached to the nuclear site licence); and to prepare necessary contingency plans as required under the Ionising Radiations Regulations 1999, and
- bodies such as local authorities have duties to make adequate emergency arrangements under other legislation such as the Civil Contingencies Act 2004.

## ***Future REPPiR HIRE and RoA***

Please note that, for as long as work with ionising radiation to which REPPiR applies is carried out on the CNLS, GE Healthcare remains legally obliged to assess changes to that work, and to periodically review and report assessments as required by regulations 5(1), 5(2), 6(2), 6(3) and 6(4) of REPPiR.

Yours sincerely,

  
**ONR Head of EP&R**

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