



Office for Nuclear Regulation (ONR) Quarterly Site Report for Dounreay

Report for period 01 July – 30 September 2016

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

Site inspectors from ONR usually attend Dounreay Stakeholder Group meetings 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 site inspector and other inspectors made inspections on the following dates during the quarter:

11 to 14 July 2016
16 to 18 August 2016
23 to 25 August 2016
20 to 23 September 2016

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 1999 (IRR99) 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, routine inspections of Dounreay covered the following:

Control and supervision and staff training, qualifications and experience;
Modifications to plant, equipment and safety cases;
Containment of radioactive material;
Plant safety systems.

Control and supervision and staff training, qualifications and experience

Licence condition 12 requires the licensee to make and implement adequate arrangements to ensure that only suitably qualified and experienced persons undertake duties which may affect safety of operations on the site. Licence condition 26 specifically requires that operations which may affect safety must be under the control of suitably qualified and experienced persons appointed for that purpose. ONR inspectors sampled the qualifications and experience of operators and supervisors associated with the Dounreay exotics consolidation programme and the fast reactor reprocessing facility. During plant walk-downs, supervisors showed a good knowledge of processes and appropriate work instructions were present in the work area and were being used. Qualifications and experience can be demonstrated for all individuals and for all the specific safety-related tasks in the areas inspected.

Modifications to plant, equipment and safety cases

Licence condition 22 requires the licensee to have adequate arrangements for the control of modifications. The inspector carried out an inspection of DSRL's arrangements for dividing modifications into stages, and for controlling progress between stages, as required by LC 22(4). He focussed specifically on the design, construction and commissioning of a repacking facility glovebox. He confirmed that construction of the glovebox itself, and connection of the services installed during the enabling works, will not commence until safety documentation has been issued and DSRL's internal assurance process has been completed. Similarly future stages require formal release of holdpoints before work can commence. He was satisfied that DSRL has implemented its arrangements to divide modifications into stages, and has a robust process for controlling movement between stages.

Containment of radioactive material

Licence condition 34 requires that the licensee ensures, so far as is reasonably practicable, that radioactive material and radioactive waste is adequately controlled and contained. It also requires that in the event that there is a leak or escape of material, that it is detected and reported. The inspector looked at the arrangements in place in the material test reactor reprocessing facility and the prototype fast reactor effluent treatment plant. He considered that in both plants there were adequate arrangements for containment and mechanisms in place to detect leaks in order to ensure an appropriate response.

Plant safety systems

Licence condition 27 requires that plant is not operated unless there are suitable and sufficient safety mechanisms properly connected and in good working order. The inspector reviewed the K(SRE) (key safety related equipment) summary document which identifies safety mechanisms derived from the liquor storage facility plant safety case. She sampled maintenance records relating to the K(SRE). As required by licence condition 28, these demonstrated that maintenance had been undertaken within the required time-scales and where appropriate calibration records of equipment used was recorded. A walk-down confirmed that K(SRE) are suitably identified on plant.

2.2 Other work

Recent incidents on site have demonstrated that the measures DSRL put in place to address deficiencies in the management and control of work that may affect safety have not been fully effective. ONR has written to DSRL requesting how it intends to measure the effectiveness of its actions in response to these recent incidents and the action it intends to take to identify the underlying cause of below standard behaviours to enable it to improve its safety performance. ONR will consider DSRL's response and determine what regulatory intervention is appropriate.

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.

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. 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.

No LIs or Enforcement Notices were issued during the period.

Table 1

Licence Instruments and Enforcement Notices Issued by ONR during this period

Date	Type	Ref No	Description

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

5 NEWS FROM ONR

REGULATION MATTERS MAGAZINE

Insight into ONR's work as an independent regulator of the nuclear industry can be found in Regulation Matters. This quarterly online publication (<http://www.onr.org.uk/regulation-matters.htm>) reports on the key themes and developments in each of ONR's regulatory programmes and provides an update about the ongoing changes at ONR. For the latest news and updates from ONR you can also visit the website and sign up for our e-bulletin (<http://www.onr.org.uk/index.htm>).

6 CONTACTS

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