



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

Report for period 1 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 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 Hartlepool Local Community Liaison Committee 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

ONR inspectors undertook interventions at Hartlepool Power Station, on the following dates during the quarter:

- 5 - 8 July
- 12 – 15 July
- 19 July
- 26 - 28 July
- 3 August
- 5 – 9 September
- 23 September

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 at Hartlepool Power Station covered the following:

- Examination, maintenance, inspection and testing
- Control and supervision
- Incidents on site
- Modifications to plant, equipment and safety cases
- Control of the return to service of plant and equipment

In addition to our program of site licence compliance inspections, ONR also undertakes system based inspections which are focused on the site's critical safety systems and structures and are derived from the licensees' safety cases. During the period, ONR performed a system based inspection of the following system:

- Main Electrical Systems

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

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:

- In September, a small fire occurred during testing of a diesel driven back-up cooling pump. The fire, which was quickly extinguished by a permanently installed fire suppression system, occurred in a small building which was unmanned at the time of incident. ONR inspectors, who visited the Station to undertake follow-up enquires into the circumstances which lead to the incident, concluded that the incident did not threaten nuclear safety; however some areas for improvement were noted in respect to maintenance procedures and arrangements for incident response. EDF Energy committed to address these issues, and the site inspector will monitor progress during future visits.

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.

In July, ONR issued LI 560, approving Hartlepool Power Station's Technical Specification Application Statement. This licence instrument was associated with implementation of a revised approach to regulation of operating rules for operational nuclear power plants. The revised approach requires the licensee to seek ONR's agreement prior to making significant amendments to operating rules whilst allowing any minor changes (typically of an administrative nature) to be undertaken by NGL.

During the period covered by this report, a team of ONR Specialist Inspectors and the ONR Site Inspector undertook a number of inspections during the periodic shutdown of Reactor 2. These inspections examined planned modifications and routine maintenance activities undertaken by NGL in accordance with the plant maintenance schedule. Inspectors sampled activities throughout the shutdown, covering topics such as graphite integrity, structural integrity of metallic components, maintenance of the station's electrical, control and instrumentation systems, and conventional health and safety. ONR concluded that the outage activities on Reactor 2 had been satisfactorily completed and on 15 August 2016 issued LI 561 granting Consent for to start-up Hartlepool Power Station Reactor 2.

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

Date	Type	Ref No	Description
25/7/16	Approval	LI 560	Approval of Operating Rule under License Condition 23(4) [and withdrawal of previous operating rule approvals].
	Consent	L1 561	Consent for re-start of Hartlepool Power Station Reactor 2 following the 2016 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

Insight into ONR's work as an independent regulator of the nuclear industry can be found in ONR's Regulation Matters. The 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. <http://www.onr.org.uk/index.htm>. 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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