



Office for Nuclear Regulation (ONR) Quarterly Site Report for Hinkley Point B Power Station

Report for period 1 January 2016 – 31 March 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 of the Site Stakeholder Group and are also available on the ONR website (<http://www.onr.org.uk/lrc/>).

Site inspectors from ONR usually attend the Hinkley Point Site 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.

TABLE OF CONTENTS

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

1 INSPECTIONS

1. The ONR nominated site inspector made inspections on the following dates during the quarter:
 - 12 – 14 January.
 - 9 – 11 February.
 - 17 – 18 February.
 - 23 – 25 February.
 - 22 – 24 March.

2. In addition, ONR specialist inspectors undertook inspections on the following dates during the quarter:
 - 2 February (Graphite inspection).
 - 9 -10 February (Quality Management inspection).
 - 9 – 10 February (Structural Integrity inspection).
 - 9 – 11 February (Conventional Safety inspection).
 - 16 February (Electrical inspection).
 - 24 – 25 February (Control & Instrumentation inspection).

3. Finally, the ONR nominated site inspector attended meetings concerning other Hinkley Point B matters on the following dates:
 - 19 January (Boiler Tube Failure Safety Case).
 - 16 February (Reactor 3 graphite return to service safety case).
 - 26 February (Site Stakeholder Group meeting).

2 ROUTINE MATTERS

4. 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).
 - Regulations made under HSWA74, for example the Ionising Radiations Regulations 1999 (IRR99) and the Management of Health and Safety at Work Regulations 1999 (MHSWR99).

5. 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.

6. In this period, inspections of Hinkley Point B covered the following:

- Incidents on the site.
 - Training.
 - Duly authorised and other suitably qualified and experienced persons.
 - Nuclear Safety Committee
 - Modification or experiment on existing plant.
 - Periodic shutdown.
 - Organisational capability.
 - Examination, inspection, maintenance and testing (outage related activities by ONR).
7. These inspections were carried out against eight Nuclear Site Licence Conditions.
8. In addition, the following activities were undertaken:
- **Reactor 3 statutory outage.** ONR specialist inspectors and the nominated ONR site inspector carried out inspections during the outage including graphite, quality, structural integrity, conventional safety, electrical and control/instrumentation. The ONR inspectors sampled the outage activities throughout the shutdown and judged them to be adequate. ONR concluded that the outage activities on Reactor 3 had been satisfactorily completed and there was nothing to prevent ONR granting Consent to start-up Hinkley Point B Reactor 3.
 - **Information exchange meetings:** As noted above, most of the work carried out in this period was related to the statutory outage but meetings were held to discuss matters such as safety rule events, progress with safety case developments and a review of the ONR issues database was carried out.
9. Details of these inspections can be found in the Hinkley Point B Intervention Reports located at <http://www.onr.org.uk/civil-nuclear-reactors/operating-reactors.htm>
10. ONR judged the arrangements made and implemented by the site in response to safety requirements to be at least adequate in the areas inspected.
11. However, where improvements were considered necessary, the licensee made satisfactory commitments to address the issues, and the ONR nominated 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

12. 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. Two non-routine matters arose in the period:
- An unplanned trip of Reactor 3 occurred on 25 March during return to service activities following the statutory outage. NGL identified the fault (which was associated with a transformer) and carried out remedial action. The reactor was restarted a few days later. NGL has begun an investigation into the cause of the trip.
 - During maintenance activities a small amount of clean, liquid Nitrogen escaped from the New Nitrogen injection equipment. No activity was released and no one was harmed but NGL has begun an investigation.
13. The nominated ONR site inspector will follow up on both of these events during the next visit.

4 REGULATORY ACTIVITY

14. ONR inspectors 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' (LI's), but can take other forms. In addition, inspectors may issue Enforcement Notices to secure improvements to safety. One licence instrument was issued in the period:

- LI 551: Consent to start-up Hinkley Point B Reactor 3.

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

16. Information specific to Hinkley Point B can be found at <http://www.onr.org.uk/sites/hinkley-point-b.htm>

5 NEWS FROM ONR

6 Chief Nuclear Inspector appointment

7 ONR announced the appointment of Dr Richard Savage as its new Chief Nuclear Inspector (CNI) to lead our regulatory activity. Richard is a Chartered Engineer with an extensive background in nuclear safety and regulation. He served as Head of the Defence Nuclear Safety Regulator, Ministry of Defence, before being appointed to ONR as a Deputy Chief Nuclear Inspector in 2013. He was Acting CNI since Dr Andy Hall's retirement in November 2015.

8 ONR Strategic Plan 2016-2020

17. In March, ONR published its Strategic Plan covering 2016-2020. The plan sets out the factors that will influence our work and the assumptions we have made about regulating the nuclear sector in the next few years, as well as how we deliver the commitments we have made to the public, ministers and government, licensees, duty holders and our staff. The plan was laid in Parliament on 22 March and can be viewed on the ONR website.

18. Insight into ONR's work as an independent regulator of the nuclear industry can be found in ONR's Quarterly News. The online publication (<http://www.onr.org.uk/onr-quarterly-report.htm>) reports on the key themes and developments in each of ONR's regulatory programmes and provides an update about the on-going 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>).

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Published 02/15

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