



Office for Nuclear Regulation (ONR) Quarterly Site Report for Low Level Waste Repository Limited

Report for period 1 October – 31 December 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 West Cumbria Sites Stakeholders Group Low Level Waste Repository Working Group and are available on the ONR website (<http://www.onr.org.uk/lrc/>).

The site inspector from ONR usually attends the West Cumbria Sites Stakeholders Group Low Level Waste Repository Working 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 inspections

The ONR Nominated Site Inspector did not carry out any site interventions during the reporting period.

When no site interventions are conducted, a monthly teleconference is usually held, to discuss matters of regulatory interest, including safety and decommissioning performance metrics, with the licensee. During this period, ONR interventions have been directed towards providing strategic regulatory advice to the licensee, as detailed below:

On 12 October, two ONR radioactive materials transport specialist inspectors met with the licensee, at their Head Office at Calderbridge, to provide regulatory advice on the licensee's oversight of radioactive materials transport compliance matters.

On 3 November, an ONR radioactive waste specialist inspector provided regulatory advice at a meeting with the licensee and others, on the topic of the development of strategy relating to potential near surface waste disposal.

On 11 November, an ONR radioactive waste specialist inspector provided regulatory advice to the licensee and others, at a meeting to discuss the implementation of the national Low Level Waste strategy, this strategy being managed by the licensee.

On 13 December, an ONR radioactive waste specialist inspector provided regulatory advice to the licensee and others, at a meeting to discuss the future short lived Intermediate Level Waste and Low Level Waste management strategies, being parts of the National Waste Programme. ONR is supportive of this waste management review study.

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 implementation.

ONR Transport.

The licensee is arranging the procurement of new transport packages, used to ship radioactive materials. ONR assessment for the approval for this package is ongoing. ONR is conducting inspection of the manufacture and testing of the packages, including at the contractor's facility, (for which LLWR is the project manager.

Incidents: One incident was reported to ONR of a vehicle carrying low level waste to the repository hit a nearby bridge and damaged the lorry. The package (an ISO container) was undamaged. No safety significance to the public.

General comment.

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.

2.2 Other work

Meetings with the safety representatives.

Meetings continue to be held with the licensee's safety representatives during inspections by ONR, to support their function of representing employees and by giving advice on matters affecting their health, safety and welfare at work.

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. The licensee reported some minor events to ONR in this quarter, in compliance with the licensee's arrangements, which were promptly investigated by the licensee, with follow up reports within sixty days of the event being provided to ONR. Given the minor nature of the events reported to ONR during this quarter, they did not warrant further investigation by ONR.

4 REGULATORY ACTIVITY

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' (LIs), but can take other forms. In addition, inspectors may issue Enforcement Notices to secure improvements to safety.

No enforcement notices were issued in this period. No Licence Instruments were issued in this period.

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

5 NEWS FROM ONR

External Stakeholder events.

On 1 November 2016, ONR held its Industry Conference in London, which brought together senior leaders from across the nuclear sector. We were pleased to welcome Baroness Neville-Rolfe DBE CMG, Minister of State at the Department for Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy (BEIS) to this year's conference who delivered the [keynote speech](#). A special edition of [Regulation matters](#) has been published following the conference, which provides a summary of how the day unfolded.

As part of our commitment to engage regularly with all our stakeholder groups, we were pleased to welcome 17 representatives from a number of organisations to our ONR / Non

Governmental Organisation (NGO) forum on 30 November in London. The event provided an opportunity for NGO representatives to meet with a number of senior ONR leaders, including our Chief Executive and Chief Nuclear Inspector, to discuss a number of priority issues.

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

Office for Nuclear Regulation
Redgrave Court
Merton Road
Bootle
Merseyside
L20 7HS
Website: www.onr.org.uk
Email: ONREnquiries@onr.gov.uk

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Published January 2017
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