



Office for Nuclear Regulation (ONR) Quarterly Site Report for AWE Aldermaston and Burghfield

Report for period 1 July to 30 September 2017

Foreword

This report is issued as part of ONR's commitment to make information about inspection and regulatory activities relating to the Aldermaston and Burghfield sites available to the public. Reports are distributed quarterly to members for the Local Liaison Committee and are also available on the ONR website (<http://www.onr.org.uk/lc/>).

Site inspectors from ONR usually attend Aldermaston and Burghfield Local 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.

TABLE OF CONTENTS

1	INSPECTIONS	3
2	ROUTINE MATTERS	3
3	NON-ROUTINE MATTERS	4
4	REGULATORY ACTIVITY	4
5	CONTACTS	5

1 INSPECTIONS

1.1 Dates of inspection

ONR inspectors carried out inspections on the following dates during the quarter:

- July 4-6, 11-12, 18-19
- August 1-4, 7-9, 15-18 and 22-23
- September 4-7, 12-14, 19-21 and 27-28

2 ROUTINE MATTERS

2.1 Inspections at Aldermaston and Burghfield

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 36 conditions attached to the licence in order to ensure legal compliance. Inspectors seek to judge both the adequacy of these arrangements and their implementation.

In this quarter, routine inspections at Aldermaston and Burghfield covered the following licence conditions (LC):

- LC10 Training
- LC23 Operating Rules
- LC24 Operating Instructions
- LC27 Safety mechanisms, devices and circuits
- LC28 Examination, inspection, maintenance and testing
- LC32 Accumulation of Radioactive Waste
- LC34 Leakage and Escape of Radioactive Material and Radioactive Waste

The list of inspections is reduced as a result of AWE industrial action.

ONR judged the arrangements made and implemented by the site in response to safety requirements to be adequate in the majority of areas inspected.

Where improvements are considered necessary following inspections, ONR may consider whether regulatory enforcement action is appropriate to ensure that remedial actions are taken in reasonably practicable timescales. No enforcement action was taken with respect to inspections described above.

2.2 Other work

In September ONR observed a site muster demonstration. The site muster had been identified as an opportunity for improvement during the Annual Level 1 on-site demonstration of LC11

(Emergency arrangements) in June. The site muster was an adequate demonstration with both the facility and site musters undertaken within appropriate timescales.

During Q2 2017 ONR requested a statement from AWE Burghfield to demonstrate safe operation of the plant from September 25th 2017 to March 31st 2018. This followed a decision by ONR to delay its Periodic Review of Safety decision for Burghfield due to the late submission of documentation. ONR received this statement during August and judges this to be an adequate response. ONR is reviewing the suite of submitted PRS documentation and continues to work with AWE as part of the assessment process.

ONR has completed technical assessment work regarding a revised Burghfield Report of Assessment that is required under the Radiation Emergency Preparedness and Public Information Regulations (REPPiR). The determination of a revised Emergency Planning Area for Burghfield is now on-going and is planned to be completed during November 2017.

ONR is continuing to engage on progress with AWE regarding the Improvement Notices (LC17 Management Systems) and Specifications (LC13 Nuclear Safety Committee) issued to Aldermaston and Burghfield during Q1 2017.

ONR continues to be fully engaged with the stakeholder-wide initiative Structured Improvement Plan (SIP). The initiative will support AWE in its drive to move from enhanced to normal regulatory attention by March 2020. ONR participated in a series of workshops within the period. The workshops are now complete and the outcomes from these will support an implementation plan.

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.

ONR responded to an electrical arcing event in a facility during Q2 2017. As a result of an ONR specialist inspector visit to site to inspect the plant a decision has been made to undertake a formal investigation. The investigation is currently on-going and will complete during Q4 2017.

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.

During the period Licence Instrument LI 533 was issued to both sites. This was an Approval of the document Terms of Reference, Nuclear Safety Committee Supplement to ESH-MSS-1513 Issue 2 February 2011.

No enforcement notices or letters were issued or closed by ONR during this reporting period.

5 NEWS FROM ONR

ONR has appointed Mark Foy as Chief Nuclear Inspector. Mark is ONR's longest-serving senior regulator and was previously Deputy Chief Nuclear Inspector and Director of the Operating Facilities Division.

ONR will soon launch its new newsletter containing the latest news and developments from across the organisation. If you would like to receive this, please subscribe on the [ONR website](#).

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 bulletin (<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

This document is issued by the Office for Nuclear Regulation (ONR). For further information about ONR, or to report inconsistencies or inaccuracies in this publication please visit <http://www.onr.org.uk/feedback.htm>.

© Office for Nuclear Regulation, 2017

If you wish to reuse this information visit www.onr.org.uk/copyright for details.

Published 11/17

For published documents, the electronic copy on the ONR website remains the most current publicly available version and copying or printing renders this document uncontrolled.