



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

Report for period 1 October – 31 December 2017

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, biannually, 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 and other ONR Inspectors conducted interventions on the following dates during the quarter:

October	18
November	27 & 28
December	n/a

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 HASWA74, for example The Ionising Radiations Regulations 1999 (IRR99) and The Management of Health and Safety at Work Regulations 1999 (MHSWR99).
- Regulatory Reform (Fire Safety) Order 2005

The inspections monitor the licensee's actions on the site in relation to all nuclear operations covering; 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.

In October ONR attended a meeting of the West Cumbria Sites' Support Group.

In November ONR carried out planned inspections of the licensee's arrangements for four licence conditions in the following areas: -

- Documents, Records, Authorities and Certificates;
- Emergency Arrangements;
- Management Systems; and
- Operational Records.

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, ONR found minor shortfalls in management systems (LC17) arrangements with regard to managing Counterfeit, Fraudulent and Suspect Items. A regulatory issue has been raised for LLWR to address this matter.

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 informed ONR of some incidents on the site with minor safety significance. These were promptly investigated by the licensee, with follow up reports being provided to ONR. ONR is content that the licensee has identified

learning opportunities from investigations and actions have been taken to help prevent recurrence.

4 GENERAL 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

5.1 New nuclear power station design approved

The UK Advanced Boiling Water Reactor (UK ABWR), designed by Hitachi-GE, is suitable for construction in the UK, the regulators confirmed following completion of an in-depth assessment of the nuclear reactor design. The Office for Nuclear Regulation (ONR), the Environment Agency and Natural Resources Wales, the regulators who undertake the Generic Design Assessment of new reactor designs, are satisfied that this reactor meets regulatory expectations on safety, security and environmental protection at this stage of the regulatory process.

ONR has issued a Design Acceptance Confirmation (DAC) and the environment agencies have issued a Statement of Design Acceptability (SoDA) to Hitachi-GE.

5.2 Step 2 of nuclear reactor assessment

We also announced in November that we are progressing to the next phase of our assessment of General Nuclear System Ltd's UK HPR1000 reactor technology. This means we will now begin the technical assessment phase. Additionally, all members of the public can give their views and find out more information about the design by going to UKHPR 1000 website at www.ukhpr1000.com

5.3 Other news: ONR response to BEIS impact assessment

The Department for Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy (BEIS) has recently published Its Impact Assessment of the Nuclear Safeguards' Bill and that makes reference to ONR's regulation. We contacted BEIS to clarify two points within the document as part of our ongoing constructive engagement with them to develop a domestic safeguards regime as part of exiting Euratom.

The first is that ONR regulates the nuclear industry; it does not provide services to it. Secondly, the Government's policy has developed since the assessment was undertaken and the intention is to put in place a regulatory framework which is robust and as comprehensive as Euratom. This means that we are not in a position to identify potential efficiencies in our regulatory approach at this stage.

As we support BEIS in its development of secondary legislation, we will provide advice to the Government to inform the anticipated impact assessment for nuclear safeguards regulation.

6 CONTACTS

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