



# Office for Nuclear Regulation (ONR) Site Report for Winfrith

Report for period 1 April – 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 above site available to the public. Reports are distributed quarterly to members for the Winfrith Site Stakeholder Group and are also available on the ONR website (<http://www.onr.org.uk/llc/>).

Site inspectors from ONR usually attend Winfrith 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.

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## 1 INSPECTIONS

### 1.1 Dates of inspection

The ONR site inspector made inspections on the following dates during the reporting period:

- 25 – 27 April 2017
- 26 - 27 September 2017

During the first inspection, the site inspector was accompanied by a radiation protection, control and instrumentation and fault studies specialist inspectors.

An ONR fire specialist inspector undertook an inspection on the following date during the reporting period:

- 11 April 2017

The ONR site inspector undertook a pre-licensing inspection accompanied by a security specialist inspector at Tradebe-Inutec Ltd at Winfrith on the following date:

- 11 May 2017

The ONR site inspector also attended the following meetings during this quarter:

- 5 May 2017 - Winfrith End State Tactical Group (meeting at Winfrith)
- 28 July 2017 - Winfrith specific Guidance on Requirements for Release of Nuclear Sites from Radioactive Substances Regulation Workshop (meeting at Birmingham)

## 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 of Harwell covered the following Licence Conditions (LC):

- LC22, Modification or Experiment on Existing Plant
- LC25, Operational Records
- LC32, Accumulation of Radioactive Waste
- LC33, Disposal of Radioactive Waste
- LC34, Leakage and Escape of Radioactive Material and Radioactive Waste

- LC35, Decommissioning

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.

The licensee's Annual Review of Safety for Harwell and Winfrith was held at Winfrith on 26<sup>th</sup> September 2017 and was attended by the site and superintending inspectors. Prior to that meeting the inspectors undertook a site inspection at Winfrith with the facility managers. The inspectors concluded that, based on the areas visited, the licensee is maintaining plant and facilities in a safe manner. The inspectors did not identify any safety concerns.

The licensee provided a report of its safety performance at both sites during the last year and identified improvements to be carried out this year. The ONR inspectors considered the report to be sufficiently self-critical and the licensee identified appropriate areas for improvement.

## **2.2 Other work**

The site inspector held a meeting with safety representatives, to support their function of representing employees and receiving information on matters affecting their health, safety and welfare at work.

The site inspector and a liabilities specialist inspector attended the Winfrith specific Guidance on Requirements for Release of Nuclear Sites from Radioactive Substances Regulation Workshop. This workshop sponsored by the Environment Agencies explored site related issues that will need to be addressed as Winfrith moves towards its Interim End State seek stakeholders' views concerning this matter.

Tradebe-Inutec Ltd has formally applied for a nuclear site licence for its operations on the Winfrith Site and has supplied an application dossier to ONR. ONR continues to assess this application in order to determine Tradebe-Inutec Ltd's suitability to hold a nuclear site licence for its undertakings at Winfrith.

## **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.

There were no such matters or events of significance during the period.

## **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.

No LIs or Enforcement Notices were issued during the period.

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

## 5 NEWS FROM ONR

ONR Chief Nuclear Inspector, Dr Richard Savage, has announced he will be stepping down after two years in the role for family reasons. ONR has appointed Mark Foy, current Director of our Operating Facilities Division, as Acting Chief Nuclear Inspector (CNI) with effect from 30 October. ONR expects to appoint a permanent Chief Nuclear Inspector towards the end of 2017, subject to ministerial approval.

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](#).

In the Queen's Birthday Honours announced in June, Chair of the Office for Nuclear Regulation, [Nick Baldwin](#), was appointed a Commander of the Order of the British Empire for services to nuclear safety and security in Britain and to the charitable sector.

ONR has published its [annual regulatory research report](#) which describes the [research activities](#) we have conducted in the past year. The report includes case studies showing how our research strategy has helped support our regulatory approach, and helps to inform the development of best practice. It can be viewed at [www.onr.org.uk/research](http://www.onr.org.uk/research)

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>).

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