



# Office for Nuclear Regulation (ONR) Site Report for The Grove Centre, Amersham

Report for period October 2017 to September 2018

## 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 to members of the Grove Centre Local Liaison Committee and are also available on the ONR website (<http://www.onr.org.uk/lc/>).

Site inspectors from ONR usually attend the Grove Centre Local Liaison Committee meetings where these reports are presented 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 Nominated Site Inspector and other ONR Inspectors conducted inspections on the following dates during the reporting period:

October 2017	11
May 2018	15
September 2018	27

## 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 the site covered the following:

#### **Emergency Arrangements**

In accordance with ONR intervention strategy, a planned inspection of the licensee's Emergency Arrangements was undertaken at the Grove Centre, Amersham. This inspection involved witnessing a planned emergency exercise at the site. Overall ONR was satisfied with the implementation of the arrangements and the performance of the emergency teams witnessed was deemed to be adequate. A small number of minor observations were made, and regulatory advice was given to the licensee to address these.

#### **Decommissioning**

An inspection was carried out of the licensee's arrangements for decommissioning. Based on the evidence provided and observations made ONR were satisfied that the licensee's arrangements for decommissioning meet regulatory requirements. It was also noted that decommissioning plans and safety cases are being developed in accordance with these arrangements.

#### **Safety Documentation.**

The licensee is required to make and implement adequate arrangements for the production and assessment of safety cases during all phases of the site's lifetime. An inspection was carried out to assess the adequacy and implementation of these arrangements. The

conclusion of this inspection was that the licensee’s arrangements adequately meet ONR’s expectations and that safety cases are developed in accordance with these arrangements.

**Delicensing**

The licensee is continuing to carry out a project which will remove approximately half of the site from regulatory control. This is known by ONR as delicensing. The project is supported by ONR as it reduces the radiological hazard at the site by removing residual radioactive contamination from the part of the site to be delicensed such that no danger from radioactivity exists. Regulatory advice has been given to ensure the licensee follows due process throughout the project.

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.

**Security**

The Grove Centre has undergone security related compliance inspections in accordance with the agreed Civil Nuclear Security (CNS) sub-division intervention strategy during the period and on each occasion has received a Green (adequate) rating from the CNS Inspector. On the basis of this past performance and in the Inspector’s judgement, the Grove Centre site should be subject to routine regulatory attention in the forthcoming financial year.

**2.2 Other work**

The site inspector held a periodic meeting with safety representatives, to support their function of representing employees and receiving information 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. 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.

**Table 1  
Licence Instruments and Enforcement Notices Issued by ONR during this period**

Date	Type	Ref No	Description
N/A			

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

## 5 NEWS FROM ONR – 1/10/17 – 30/9/18

### **Corporate News**

In October 2017 Mark Foy was appointed as ONR's new Chief Nuclear Inspector. For the previous four years Mark had been a Deputy Chief Nuclear Inspector working on some of ONR's most significant programmes including, Sellafield, decommissioning, defence and civil reactors.

In November 2017 we announced that Sir Simon Lister would be joining the ONR Board as a Non-Executive Director. Sir Simon commenced his appointment on 5 March 2018 for a four-year term.

In May we published a self-assessment exercise to update on how well our activity currently aligns with the Regulators' Code, which came into effect in April 2014 to provide a framework for how regulators should engage with those they regulate. The full report is available on our [website](#).

In June we published our Annual Report and Accounts highlighting the extent of our regulatory activities. During the 17/18 year over 1,000 inspections were carried out across 36 licensed sites and transport duty-holders, ensuring the required standards of safety and security were met to protect the public and workers. The full report is available on our website.

In July we published our second [gender pay report](#). The organisation-wide results show that ONR has a mean gender pay gap of 35.2%, which is wider than last year, although it is broadly similar to the rest of the UK nuclear industry and anticipated given our workforce profile, and that of the industries from which we have historically recruited. ONR is committed to addressing this issue and continues to focus on improving diversity and inclusion.

Our Chief Executive, Adrienne Kelbie, has agreed a three-year contract extension, taking her term of employment to January 2022.

The Department for Work and Pensions has started the process for recruiting a new ONR Chair (further details can be found on the [public appointments website](#)). Our current Chair, Nick Baldwin CBE, will remain in office until 31 March, 2019.

### **Regulatory News**

In December 2017 we completed the generic design assessment of the Hitachi-GE designed, UK Advanced Boiling Water Reactor (UK ABWR), and confirmed that the design is suitable for construction in the UK. We issued a Design Acceptance Confirmation (DAC) and a Statement of Design Acceptability (SoDA) was issued by the environment agencies to Hitachi-GE.

In May 2018 a delegation from ONR, led by Chief Nuclear Inspector Mark Foy, supported the UK's contribution to the 6th Joint Convention review meeting in Vienna. Bringing together 78 countries, the Joint Convention on the Safety of Spent Fuel Management and the Safety of Radioactive Waste Management is the world's leading international forum for ensuring society and the environment are protected from hazards arising from spent fuel and radioactive waste. Further details can be found on the IAEA website.

On 11 May we notified Sellafield Ltd of our intention to prosecute the company for offences under Section 2 (1) of the Health and Safety at Work etc. Act (1974). The charge related to an incident on 5 February, 2017, at a facility which handles special nuclear materials, which resulted in personal contamination to a Sellafield Ltd employee. The decision to prosecute followed an investigation into the incident by ourselves. The matter remains subject to legal proceedings with the trial provisionally scheduled to take place on 25 March 2019 at Carlisle Crown Court.

On 25 July we announced our decision to prosecute the Atomic Weapons Establishment for offences under Section 2 (1)\* of the Health and Safety at Work etc. Act (1974). This charge related to an electrical incident on 27 June, 2017, which resulted in injury to an AWE employee. The incident was a conventional health and safety matter and there was no radiological risk to workers or the public. At a court hearing on 18 September, AWE pleaded guilty to the charge and sentencing was adjourned until 9 November, 2018.

In a separate case brought by ONR, EDF Energy Nuclear Generation Ltd and Doosan Babcock Ltd pleaded guilty on 10 October, 2018, to offences under the Health & Safety at Work etc. Act 1974, section 3(1) and the Work at Height Regulations 2005, Regulation 4(1) respectively. The charges relate to an incident on 12 April 2017 at the Hinkley Point B nuclear power station, which resulted in a serious injury to a Doosan Babcock Ltd employee. Following a hearing at Taunton Magistrates Court, the case was committed for sentencing at Taunton Crown Court with the hearing date provisionally set for 1 February 2019.

The cases involving AWE, EDF Energy Ltd and Doosan Babcock Ltd related to conventional, industrial-type incidents that would have been subject to regulation by the Health and Safety executive prior to ONR's creation four years ago, when we gained responsibility for such matters on licensed sites. There was no radiological risk to workers or the public. Updates on each case will be published on our [website](#).

We're on target to deliver the UK's new domestic safeguards regime at the end of March 2019. We've recruited all the safeguards specialists the UK expects to need and are on target to have a dedicated IT system, to run in parallel with Euratom from January 2019. The project's also had a 'light touch' review from the Infrastructure and Projects Authority (IPA), the government's centre of expertise for infrastructure and major projects. The IPA gave us a rating of Green/Amber, another vote of confidence in the work so far. We've been talking to industry stakeholders about our future regulation and we'll do more of this in 2019.

The UK government published its latest quarterly update on exiting Euratom in October. The update includes the progress on international agreements and trade in the civil nuclear sector

### **Stakeholder Engagement**

We continue to engage constructively with members of the nuclear-interest Non-Governmental Organisation community and held meetings of our ONR-NGO Forum in October 2017, March 2018 and October 2018. The forum meets to discuss strategic, cross-cutting regulatory matters. Site specific matters are normally addressed via local Site Stakeholder Groups. We are always keen to engage with a range of stakeholders and groups on nuclear safety and security issues, so if you do represent a NGO, and

are not already involved through our forum or via a Site Stakeholder Group, then please get in touch with the ONR Communications team via [contact@onr.gov.uk](mailto:contact@onr.gov.uk)

On 9 May 2018 we held our annual Industry Conference, with the theme - 'Public Safety – everyone's responsibility.' Delegates from more than 45 different organisations attended, and we were delighted that Richard Harrington, Parliamentary under Secretary of State, Minister for Business and Industry, was able to join us to deliver a keynote speech. The conference provided us with an opportunity to engage directly with senior representatives from across industry and government on a number of topical and strategic issues affecting the sector.

As part of our continued stakeholder engagement work, in June 2018 we welcomed finance professionals from a number of nuclear site licensees and dutyholders to seminars in London and Birmingham. Led by our Finance Director, Sarah High, we hosted the seminars to provide the industry with a better understanding of our charging methodology, the principles we apply, and how the charging process works. To accompany the seminars we have also published a new booklet – How we charge for Nuclear Regulation – which is available on our website.

In August 2018 our Chief Nuclear Inspector Mark Foy and Deputy Chief Inspector Mina Golshan, hosted a webinar for stakeholders on the outcomes of the UK report to the Joint Convention. This is a new channel of communication which we have introduced, and further webinars are planned. If you would like to find out more, please contact the ONR Communications team via [contact@onr.gov.uk](mailto:contact@onr.gov.uk)

## 6 CONTACTS

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