



Office for Nuclear Regulation (ONR) Site Report for Winfrith

Report for period 1 October – 31 December 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 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 quarter:

- 9, 10 and 11 October 2018
- 6, 7, 8 and 20 November 2018
- 3 December 2018

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 2017 (IRR17) 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 Winfrith focused on the following :

- LC 10 Training
- LC 11 Emergency Arrangements
- LC 17 Management Systems
- LC 26 Control and Supervision of Operations
- LC 36 Organisational Capability

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.

In regard to LC11, the licensee undertook an emergency demonstration exercise. ONR considered that the planning for the exercise was sufficient, and that the scenario was proportionate to the hazards remaining on site whilst remaining challenging of the emergency arrangements. During the emergency demonstration exercise, ONR identified a number of good points and a number of areas for improvement but overall deemed the exercise an adequate demonstration of the site's emergency arrangements.

2.2 Other work

ONR permission to undertake civil construction of core segmentation facilities is expected in 2019. Work commenced in November 2018 on construction of the grout plant for Steam

Generating Heavy Water Reactor (SGHWR) generated wastes and good progress continues to be made in the removal of the SGHWR steam drums.

ONR attended the Winfrith End-State Tactical Group (WESTG). A radioactive waste specialist inspector is currently attending these meetings as Winfrith is the lead site in the UK for determining this type of approach to end-states. In accordance with the Nuclear Reactors (Environmental Impact Assessment for Decommissioning) Regulations 1999 (EIADR99), the sea-pipeline beyond the boundaries of the nuclear licensed site is being regulated by ONR. ONR is working with the Environment Agency and Local Authorities to ensure if an Environmental Impact Assessment is required by these stakeholders, it will also meet the requirements of EIADR. ONR wrote to Magnox Ltd on 6 December 2018 clarifying the requirements of EIADR regulation 13 for determinations.

ONR has completed the readiness inspections prior to granting a separate nuclear site licence to Inutec Ltd. The assessment of Inutec's application for its own Site Licence is now complete pending Inutec Ltd providing evidence of completion of contracts with NDA which is expected between 4 and 8 February 2019. ONR is planning to be in a position to grant the new Site Licence to come into force on the 11 February 2019. When a new site licence is granted to Inutec Ltd, the Winfrith Magnox Ltd site will also be re-licensed concurrently.

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 of significance to report 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

For the latest news and updates from ONR, please visit the ONR website and sign up for our newsletter (<http://www.onr.org.uk/ebulletin/index.htm>).

October

- We welcomed the [publication](#) of the key review of operational safety performance at Torness nuclear power station, published by the International Atomic Energy Agency and the UK government. The report highlights eight areas of good practice at Torness and offers proposals for further improvements, which we fully support.
- Following our decision to prosecute, EDF Energy Nuclear Generation Ltd and Doosan Babcock Ltd pleaded guilty to offences at Hinkley Point B under the Health & Safety at Work etc. Act 1974, section 3(1) and the Work at Height Regulations 2005, Regulation 4(1) respectively. The incident was a conventional health and safety matter, with no radiological risk to workers or the public. [A sentencing date](#) has been set for 1 February 2019 at Taunton Crown Court.

November

- Following a rigorous procurement process, we appointed six nuclear supply chain organisations to our new [Technical Support Framework \(TSF\)](#). The new TSF, which came in to effect on 1 November 2018, has been established to provide a renewed and modernised framework for procuring technical support. We use this technical support to obtain, for example, expert technical assessments, access to specialist software or modelling, or access to niche skill sets that we do not retain in-house.
- The revised Nuclear Safety Directive introduced a European system of Topical Peer Review in 2017 and every six years thereafter. We played a leading role in the preparations for the first European 'Topical Peer Review' on Ageing Management of Nuclear Power Plants and welcome the publication of the [first peer review report](#) by the European Nuclear Safety Regulator Group. We are pleased that a number of our experts made a valuable contribution to the exercise alongside 16 European countries as well as Norway, Switzerland and Ukraine. The UK report was authored jointly between ourselves, EDF Nuclear Generation Ltd and EDF-NNB GenCo.
- [The Atomic Weapons Establishment \(AWE\) was fined £1 million](#) after admitting offences under Section 2 (1) of the Health and Safety at Work etc. Act (1974). The incident, which occurred on 27 June 2017, was a conventional health and safety matter and there was no radiological risk to workers or the public. The prosecution was the result of our investigation into the incident.
- In conjunction with the Environment Agency, we announced the completion of our [initial high level scrutiny](#) of the UK HPR1000 reactor design.
- We provided NNB Genco (HPC) Ltd (NNB GenCo) with [consent](#) to commence the unit 1 Nuclear Island concrete pour at Hinkley Point C (HPC). We also hosted our third webinar to explain our permissioning role for the Nuclear Island concrete pour at HPC and to provide information on our work to ensure that the new nuclear power station is built to the standards expected in the UK. Amongst others, a number of Site Stakeholder Group members joined the webinar and we received excellent feedback. We are planning further webinars on various topics in 2019. If you would like to find out more, please contact the ONR Communications team at contact@onr.gov.uk

- After 16 years of decommissioning work, Bradwell became the first of the Magnox nuclear power stations to receive our permission to enter into a period of “care and maintenance”.
- The nuclear safeguards regulations which will enable ONR to set up the domestic safeguards regime following Euratom withdrawal, were laid in Parliament. The Government published the details, [alongside its response and the feedback to consultation on the draft regulations on its website.](#)

December

- [Court proceedings continued](#) in our [prosecution of Sellafield Ltd](#) for offences under Section 2 (1) of the Health and Safety at Work etc Act (1974).
- Reactor 3 at Hunterston B remains offline after being shut down following a routine inspection into cracks in its graphite core, in March 2018. [Cracking of the graphite bricks in Advanced Gas-cooled Reactors](#) such as Hunterston B is expected as the reactors age. However, the number of cracks found during the inspection of Reactor 3 has led to the licensee, EDF Nuclear Generation Limited, carrying out further inspections of the core. Reactor 4 at Hunterston B was taken offline in October for an inspection of its graphite core. EDF Energy has submitted a safety case for Reactor 4 and is preparing one for Reactor 3. We will assess both safety cases to determine whether the reactors are safe to return to service. Neither reactor may restart without our consent, which we will give only if it is safe to do so.
- The Government published a [Written Ministerial Statement](#) on implementing Geological Disposal, announcing the publication of its [Working With Communities](#) policy and the launch of a consent-based process to find a site to host a Geological Disposal Facility (GDF). While we have no formal role in identifying the site for a GDF, any future facility will need to meet the high standards of safety and security required of a licensed nuclear site.

All our latest news is available on our website www.onr.org.uk

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