



# Office for Nuclear Regulation (ONR) Quarterly Site Report for Hinkley Point A

Report for period 1 January 2020 - 31 March 2020

## 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 normally distributed quarterly to members for the Hinkley Point Site Stakeholder Group and are also available on the ONR website (<http://www.onr.org.uk/llc/>).

A site inspector from ONR usually attends Hinkley Point 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

ONR inspectors undertook inspections on the following dates during the quarter:

- 4 February 2020

## 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 covered the following legal requirements:

- LC 5: Consignment of nuclear matter
- LC 32: Accumulation of radioactive waste
- LC 34: Leakage and escape of radioactive material and radioactive waste

In general, ONR judged the arrangements made and implemented by the site in response to safety requirements to be adequate in the areas inspected. Where necessary, ONR will take formal enforcement action to ensure that appropriate remedial measures are implemented to reasonably practicable timescales.

### 2.2 Other work

ONR's site inspector held monthly tripartite telephone calls with the Licensee and the Environment Agency; these provide Magnox Ltd an opportunity to update the regulatory bodies with progress on decommissioning programmes and other matters related to nuclear safety, security or the environment.

## 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.

In response to the Covid-19 pandemic all 12 of Magnox Ltd.'s licensed sites have been put into a quiescent safe-state with all decommissioning and radioactive waste handling activities having ceased. This pause in operations has allowed the number of personnel on site to be reduced to a level that some monitoring and surveillance of plant can be undertaken, such as

periodically emptying sumps and checking ventilation systems, and that security can be sustained. The majority of personnel are now working from home.

Emergency preparedness is being maintained through a duty cover team at each site in accordance with ONR approved emergency arrangements. These arrangements include the provision to call in additional personnel and the emergency services onto site to assist Magnox Ltd staff. These plans have been regularly rehearsed and observed by ONR inspectors during emergency exercises in the recent past. Magnox Ltd has not reported any supply chain issues that may affect the sites safe status.

#### **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 this period.

#### **5 NEWS FROM ONR**

##### **Change of Nominated Site Inspector**

On 6 April a new ONR Nominated Site Inspector for the south-west region Magnox Ltd sites (Berkeley, Hinkley Point A and Oldbury) took over.

##### **Covid-19 (Coronavirus) (ONR position)**

ONR is continuing to protect society by securing safe nuclear operations during the Coronavirus pandemic. ONR staff continue to work from home, in line with government advice. We have considered our priorities, have deferred non-critical activities, and are carrying out as much of our work as possible via videoconference, phone and email. Our regulatory focus includes assurance, where appropriate, from site licensees that they are applying the public health measures introduced to reduce the spread of coronavirus. A limited number of our inspectors can, as key workers, continue to travel to site as necessary to conduct urgent and essential regulatory inspections. Nuclear sites have been reducing non-essential activities so as to protect staff, infrastructure, and the public. As always, we are regulating those activities to ensure they are carried out safely and securely.

##### **Enforcement Action**

ONR served an [Enforcement Notice](#) on Urenco UK Ltd following a fire safety inspection at its Capenhurst Works in Cheshire during December 2019. The notice was issued in response to shortfalls identified in the fire alarm and detection systems at one of the site's facilities.

In February ONR announced that [Sellafield Limited had complied](#) with an Improvement Notice relating to staff training, operating procedures and procedural adherence that they were served with in May 2019.

##### **Regulatory Updates**

In January ONR published an update to its [Safety Assessment Principles](#), to incorporate some relatively minor revisions including typographical corrections and updates to reflect changes to the UK's nuclear regulatory framework since 2014.

In February ONR completed Step 3 of the Generic Design Assessment (GDA) of the UK HPR1000 design, and took the decision to progress to Step 4 of the GDA. During Step 3,

ONR increased its regulatory scrutiny and undertook a more detailed assessment of the design, focusing on the methods and approaches used by the GDA Requesting Party to underpin their safety and security claims.

In March we published the Quarterly [Statement of Civil Incidents](#) for the period 1 October to 31 December 2019. During this reporting period there were two civil incidents at nuclear licensed sites within Great Britain that met the Ministerial Reporting Criteria as defined within the Nuclear Installations (Dangerous Occurrences) Regulations 1965 and ONR guidance in relation to notifying and reporting incidents and events.

## Stakeholder Engagement

On 15 January ONR launched a four-week public consultation on its draft 2025 Strategy. Once agreed, the strategy will set our direction and priorities for the next five years. To support the public consultation we held a webinar for NGOs and other stakeholders in which our Chief Executive, Adrienne Kelbie, and Technical Director, Anthony Hart, gave an overview of the strategy and welcomed questions and comments. The strategy is due to be published in May 2020.

In January, ONR achieved Level 3 Disability Confident (Leader) status, recognising our desire to put people first and create an environment in which everyone can thrive. The government-backed scheme encourages employers to think differently about disability and take action to improve how they recruit, retain and develop disabled people.

In February, we announced the appointment of two new members to the ONR Board. Dr Janet Wilson took up the appointment on 1 April 2020 and Tracey Matthews will take up her appointment on 1 June 2020 – both appointments are for five year terms.

In February more than 70 stakeholders involved in the transport of radioactive material attended a conference organised by ONR's Transport Competent Authority (TCA) team. The event provided a good opportunity for the TCA team to share their expectations on compliance with regulations governing the transport of radioactive material.

## 6 CONTACTS

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