



Office for
Nuclear Regulation

Welcome
ONR NGO Forum meeting
26 February 2021

ONR leadership changes

Mark McAllister and Adrienne Kelbie



Office for
Nuclear Regulation

CNI Update to ONR-NGO Forum

Mark Foy – Chief Nuclear Inspector

Topics of Interest

- Latest ONR position on COVID-19
- Energy white paper – what this means for ONR
- Hinkley Point C and Sizewell C update
- Update on the operating reactor fleet - DNB, HNB, HPB
- Other significant updates from other regulated sites – SL, Dounreay
- Safeguards – ONR as UK statutory regulator
- SDF project work (SSG/LLC meetings)
- NEA Consultation – Trusted regulator
- EA UK HPR1000 consultation – ONR role
- Transparency Focus Group
- South Texas reactor trip – UK position

Enforcement Activities since November

ONR enforcement activities since November

- Enforcement Letters – 6 Issued (5 to Sellafield, 1 to Heysham 1)
- Improvement Notices – 2 Issued (both to Sellafield/Morgan Sindall)
- Direction – 1 issued under LC15 (Heysham 1)
- Investigation – 1 (transport related)



Thank you for listening
Questions and Discussion

Refreshment Break

OFFICIAL

Waste management: current and future positions and regulation

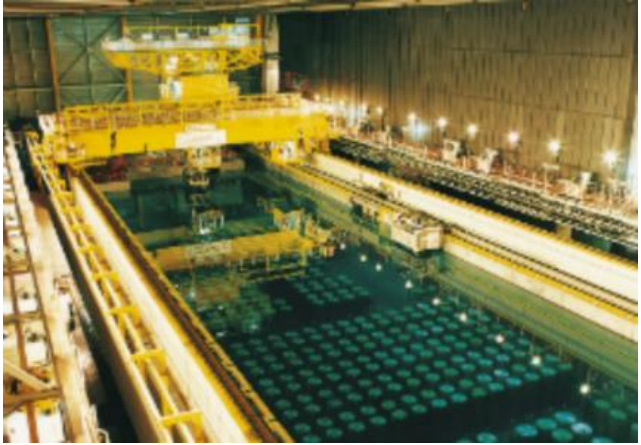
Dr Mina Golshan – Deputy Chief Inspector and Director SDFW Division

Rob Campbell – Delivery Lead for Decommissioning, Fuel and Waste

Current Position: interim storage

- Interim storage (overground) with facilities are designed to house the radioactive waste – facility design determined by the type of radionuclides, condition of waste/spent fuel and waste package (primary containment).
- All storage facilities must have a safety case justifying safety for their continued use; are subject to inspection and maintenance activities based on the requirements set-out in the safety case; subject to periodic safety reviews (*demonstrating continued safety and meeting modern standards*), all in line with the requirement placed on the operators under the Nuclear Site Licence.
- There are currently legacy storage facilities that do not meet the very high standards we expect for long-term operation of nuclear plants/storage of waste; for some upgrade are not reasonably practicable and the only way is retrieval of their waste to modern facilities for interim storage

Overall Current Picture

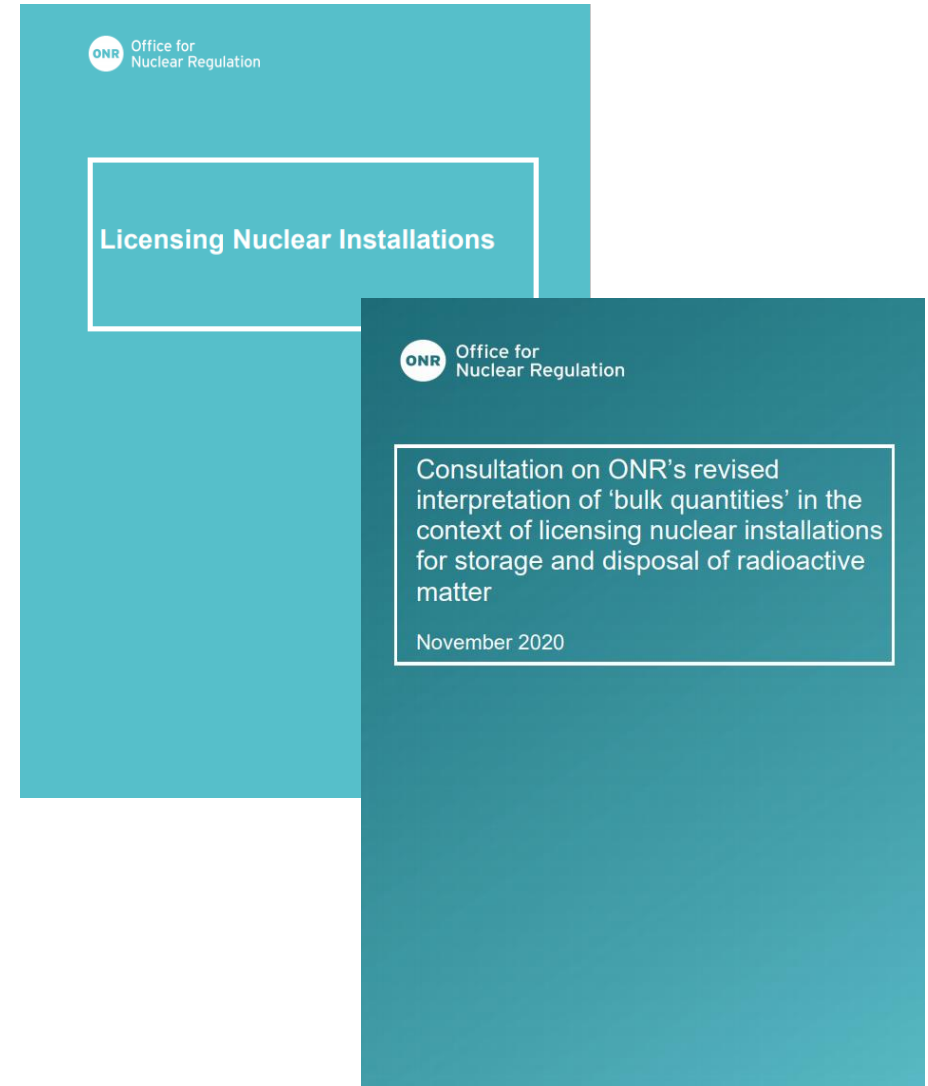


Licensing Geological Disposal

ONR is working with BEIS to ensure it has the necessary powers to grant a nuclear site licence for a GDF

- Following significant engagement with Government, Environmental Regulator and other stakeholders we set-out our position in respect of requiring a future GDF to be subject to the nuclear licensing regime
- We recently consulted on our proposed criteria for a licensing decision for a GDF (based on interpretation of the term “Bulk Quantities”)
- Our driver: to ensure the nuclear site licensing regime applies to a GDF, but with suitable flexibility to enable application to a potential near surface disposal of ILW and/or exclusion of LLW waste disposal.
- We have provided guidance on how our licensing process will apply to a GDF in *Licensing Nuclear Installations*.

We are progressing this work now to provide assurance of proportionate and targeted regulation of a future GDF to communities potentially interested in engaging with the siting process.



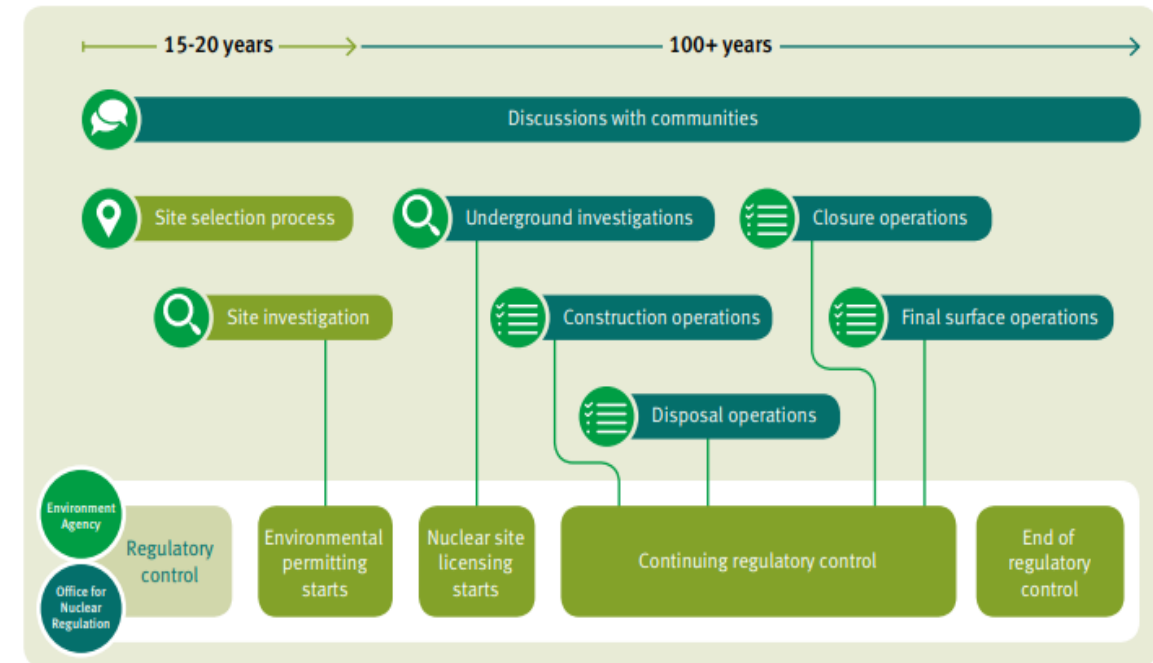
GDF Timeline

Our engagement with RWM enables adequate oversight of its GDF programme **including its range of development scenarios and timelines** to deliver first waste emplacement

Depending upon the locations taken forward through the siting process, ONR anticipates submission of a nuclear site licence application in the mid-2030s to early 2040s.

As the GDF programme develops ONR expects to apply a staged regulatory model with increasing technical detail in line with development of a site-specific GDF safety case.

We have regulatory oversight of waste generating sites/licensees to ensure they maintain adequate storage capacity and capability to deliver safe and secure interim storage until suitable disposal routes are made available.



GDF Siting Engagement

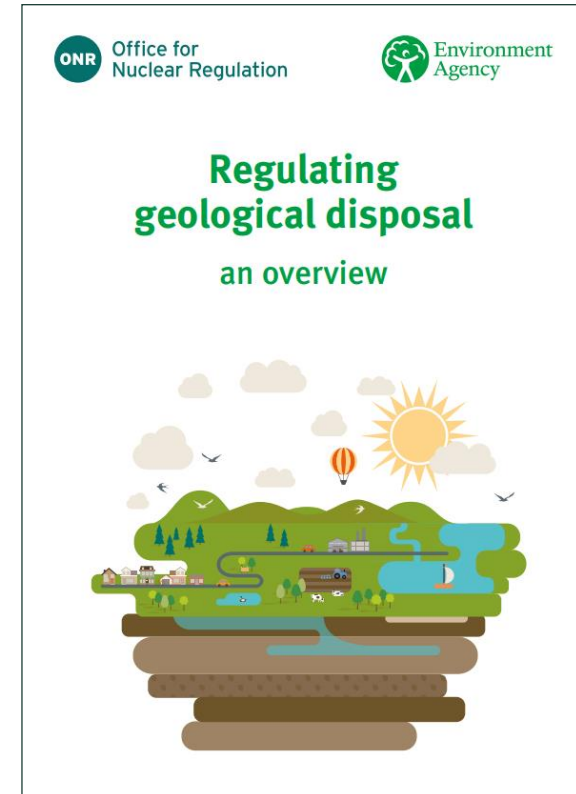
ONR is working with the Environment Agency to explain our roles in regulating geological disposal, through development, operation and closure of a GDF

We have no decision making role in the GDF siting process.

However, we are committed to engaging with interested communities to explain our future regulatory role and how our expectations will apply to a GDF.

We have held initial meetings with the Copeland and Allerdale Working Groups to offer support to their work and provide links to our published guidance.

We continue to engage with RWM to understand the status of its discussions with other interested parties to inform future resource demands to support engagement.



Environmental protection



Safety



Security



Safeguards



Transport

Oversight of RWM

ONR, jointly with the environment regulators, is engaging with RWM to provide regulatory advice and scrutinise its work to deliver a GDF

Our focus is on development of both RWM's organisational capability to become a licensee and its safety case to underpin safe operations at a GDF. We have established engagement across all of ONR's purposes to ensure RWM is aware of our expectations.

We have routine engagements on RWM's research and development portfolio to ensure it will obtain the necessary knowledge to underpin its safety case at the right time. This will also enable ONR to identify topics where we may consider independent research to support future regulatory decisions.

We also liaise regularly with RWM to make sure that it gives appropriate advice to waste producers about packaging radioactive waste for future disposal at a GDF.



Thank you for listening
Questions and Discussion



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Summary and Close

Adrienne Kelbie and Dr Jill Sutcliffe