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| ONR Site Report  Magnox Ltd – Harwell |



ONR Site Report

Magnox Ltd - Harwell

Report for period: 1 July – 31 December 2023

Authored by: Nominated Site Inspector

Approved by: Delivery Lead, DFW Subdivision

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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 for the Harwell Site Stakeholder Group and are also available on the ONR website (<http://www.onr.org.uk/llc/>).

Site inspectors from ONR usually attend Harwell Site Stakeholder Group 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.

Contents

[1. Inspections 4](#_Toc124509190)

[2. Routine Matters 5](#_Toc124509191)

[3. Non-Routine Matters 7](#_Toc124509192)

[4. Regulatory Activity 8](#_Toc124509193)

[5. News from ONR 9](#_Toc124509194)

[6. Contacts 9](#_Toc124509195)

# Inspections

## Date(s) of Inspection

The ONR site inspector made inspections on the following dates during the report period 1 July to 31 December 2023

* 30 August 2023
* 20 September 2023

# Routine Matters

## 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 etc 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 the 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 Magnox Ltd Harwell site covered the following:

* radiological protection;
* fire safety;
* examination, maintenance, inspection and testing

Members of the public, who would like further information on ONR’s inspection activities during the reporting period, can view site intervention reports at [www.onr.org.uk/intervention-records](http://www.onr.org.uk./intervention-records) on our website [www.onr.org.uk](http://www.onr.org.uk).

Should you have any queries regarding our inspection activities, please email [contact@onr.gov.uk](mailto:contact@onr.gov.uk).

## Other Work

Throughout this reporting period, ONR’s nominated site safety inspector held regular meetings with the Magnox Ltd Harwell leadership team representatives to maintain situational awareness of matters related to nuclear safety. No significant issues were highlighted by ONR.

The ONR project inspector for the delicensing projects continues to meet with the project staff at Harwell, supported by ONR specialist inspectors and UKHSA. Engagements are being aligned with the Harwell campus priorities.

The ONR site inspector supported the Harwell campus emergency planning co-ordination committee in December. No issues were identified. ONR is currently reviewing its position on the need for an offsite emergency plan at Magnox Ltd Harwell under REPPIR 2019.

# 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 July 2023 ONR was informed of an incident whereby one the safety measures had been not been applied in accordance with safety case requirements. It was a safety management requirement that a number of “lock offs” were applied prior to removing shielding in the Head End Cell (HEC) as part of a maintenance activity. It was observed on the completion of the maintenance task that one of the lock offs to the HEC crane had not been applied. The purpose of the lock off was to prevent what would be an unauthorised use of the crane to bring radioactive material into the HEC during the maintenance activity thereby giving an elevated dose uptake to the maintainers. In this instance additional layers of protection were in place as per the safety case requirements and consequently there was no risk to members of the public. ONR undertook preliminary enquiries and determined that the duty holder had taken appropriate immediate mitigation measures and that formal ONR investigation was not required.

During December 2023, the Harwell site informed ONR of a temporary failure of its emergency telephone contact line in accordance with agreed incident reporting protocols. ONR was content with the immediate actions taken and prompt rectification of the line. ONR currently awaits completion of the duty holder’s investigation to determine learning from the event.

ONR notes the change of operating name from Magnox Ltd to Nuclear Restoration Services (NRS). Until such time as the legal company name changes, ONR continues to refer to the legal name of Magnox Ltd in this report.

# 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 take a range of enforcement actions, to include issuing an Enforcement Notice.

* No LIs, Enforcement Notices or Enforcement letters were issued during this period.

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

# News from ONR

For the latest news and information from ONR, please read and subscribe to our regular email newsletter ‘ONR News’ at [www.onr.org.uk/onrnews](http://www.onr.org.uk/onrnews).

# Contacts

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