



# Office for Nuclear Regulation (ONR) Site Report for Wylfa

Report for period 1 July 2020 – 31 December 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 distributed to members for the Wylfa Site Stakeholder Group (SSG) and are also available on the ONR website (<http://www.onr.org.uk/lrc/>).

Site inspectors from ONR usually attend Wylfa SSG 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 (<http://www.onr.org.uk/feedback.htm>).

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## 1 INSPECTIONS

### 1.1 Dates of inspection

ONR inspectors attended Wylfa site on the following dates:

- 28<sup>th</sup> July 2020;
- 25<sup>th</sup> to 28<sup>th</sup> August 2020;
- 16<sup>th</sup> September 2020;
- 24<sup>th</sup> September 2020;
- 5<sup>th</sup> October 2020; and
- 16<sup>th</sup> to 19<sup>th</sup> November 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 and security. 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, ONR carried out the following inspections at Wylfa:

- The licensee's implementation of Covid-19 risk reduction measures
- LC 02: Marking of the site boundary
- LC 10: Training
- LC 12: Duly authorised and other suitably qualified and experienced persons
- LC 14: Safety documentation
- LC 15: Periodic review
- LC 17: Management system
- LC 19: Construction or installation of new plant
- LC 21: Commissioning
- LC 26: Control and supervision of operations
- LC 28: Examination, inspection, maintenance and testing
- LC 36: Organisational capability
- Nuclear Industries Security Regulations (NISR) 2003 (as amended).

In general, ONR judged the arrangements made and implemented by the site in response to safety and security requirements to be adequate in the areas inspected. ONR continues to monitor information and cyber security improvements at the site against an improvement schedule. Wylfa continues to promote security outcomes and is making progress in completing identified improvements.

## 2.2 Other work

Throughout this reporting period, including the period of national lockdown, ONR's nominated site safety inspector has held weekly telephone meetings with a Wylfa leadership team representative to maintain situational awareness on matters related to nuclear safety, security, safeguards, transport and conventional and health and safety, including: workforce resilience, emergency arrangements resilience, supply chain resilience, events on the site and activities taking place on the site. No significant issues were highlighted to ONR and so since August the frequency of these telephone meetings has reduced to fortnightly.

ONR re-commenced site inspection visits to Wylfa in July 2020. ONR is keeping its engagements with Wylfa under review and is alert to the need to balance completion of planned inspections with Welsh Government and local area Covid-19 rules. This includes now undertaking some interactions by remote conference calls (as appropriate) to optimise physical presence on the site.

## 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.

Wylfa has not reported any safety related incidents to ONR during this reporting period.

In response to the Covid-19 pandemic, all 12 of Magnox Limited's licensed nuclear sites were put into a quiescent safe-state with all decommissioning and radioactive waste handling activities having ceased. This pause in operations allowed the number of personnel on site to be reduced to a level that some monitoring and surveillance of plant could be undertaken, such as periodically emptying sumps and checking ventilation systems, and that security can be sustained. Most personnel during this pause period were working from home and continue to do so. The site has undertaken work to ensure personnel can return to site in a safe and secure manner.

Emergency preparedness is 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 Limited staff. These plans have been regularly rehearsed and observed by ONR inspectors during emergency exercises in the recent past. Magnox Limited has not reported any issues that may affect the site's safe status.

## 4 REGULATORY ACTIVITY

ONR may issue formal documents to ensure compliance with regulatory requirements. Under nuclear site Licence Conditions (LC) ONR issues regulatory documents which either permit an activity or require some form of action to be taken. These are collectively termed 'Licence Instruments' (LIs). In addition, inspectors may issue Enforcement Notices to secure improvements to safety.

There was one LI, and no Enforcement Notices issued during the period:

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

Date	Type	Ref No	Description
5/10/2020	Licence Instrument	575	Approval issued under licence condition 28(5) of Wylfa's revised nuclear maintenance schedule preface. Approval came into force on 15/10/2020 at noon.

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

## 5 NEWS FROM ONR (JULY – DECEMBER 2020)

### Covid-19 (Coronavirus)

We are continuing to obtain assurance that nuclear site licensees and other dutyholders are adequately resourced to continue to safely and securely carry out their activities.

We remain satisfied with industry's response at this time and there has been no significant change to dutyholders' safety and security resilience.

As COVID-19 restrictions change, our focus is on the preparedness for the weeks and months ahead and maintaining safe and secure operations.

All licensed sites are required to determine minimum staffing levels necessary to ensure safe and secure operations and contingency arrangements in the event that these levels are not met. This condition is specifically designed to ensure that industry can adequately manage and control activities that could impact on nuclear safety and security under all foreseeable circumstances, including pandemics.

ONR staff continue to work at home, primarily. We have considered our priorities, deferred non-critical activities, and are carrying out as much of our work as possible via videoconference, phone and email.

We continue to inspect, assess and permission remotely where necessary to protect staff, workers on site, and the public around sites.

### Enforcement action

In July we publicised the serving of an Improvement Notice on Rolls-Royce Submarines Ltd (RRSL) for procedural safety breaches at its Derby site. The notice was served after shortfalls were identified against the safety case requirements at a nuclear fuel production facility on the site.

In September we announced that an Improvement Notice had been served on EDF Energy Nuclear Generation Ltd (EDF NGL) for shortfalls in safety procedures at its Heysham 2 Power Station in Lancashire. We also announced that an Improvement Notice had also been served on Devonport Royal Dockyard Ltd for shortfalls in maintenance procedures at its Plymouth site.

In September we publicised our intention to prosecute AWE plc under Section 3 of the Health and Safety at Work etc. Act (1974). It followed an electrical incident on 20 June 2019 at the

AWE Aldermaston site which resulted in a contractor narrowly avoiding injury when a flash over of electricity occurred from a 415V electrical source. The incident was a conventional health and safety matter and took place in a 'non-nuclear' building, so there was no radiological risk to workers or the public. AWE was subsequently fined £660,000 after pleading guilty to this offence and ordered to pay costs of £9,945.71 during a virtual hearing at High Wycombe Magistrates Court.

In October we notified Sellafield Ltd that it would be prosecuted under Section 2 (1) of the Health and Safety at Work etc. Act (1974). The charge related to an incident on 24 April 2020 at the Sellafield site where an employee sustained injuries while working on high voltage electrical equipment. This incident was also a conventional health and safety matter and there was no radiological risk to workers or the public. The hearing took place at Carlisle Magistrates Court on 18 December 2020, where Sellafield Ltd was fined £320,000 and ordered to pay costs of £12,079.07 after pleading guilty to the offence.

## **Regulatory updates**

In July the Government published its response to the International Atomic Energy Agency's final report on the Integrated Regulatory Review Service (IRRS) mission to the UK. The IRRS mission took place between 14 – 25 October 2019 and was hosted by ONR and saw a team of 18 independent experts from across the globe scrutinising the regulation of nuclear and radiological safety.

In August we provided EDF NGL with permission for Reactor 3 at its Hunterston B site to return to service for a limited period of operation (16.425 Terawatt days, approximately six months' operation). In September we also gave permission for Reactor 4 at the same site to return to service for a limited period of operation (16.25 terawatt days, which is approximately six months' operation). The decision to permit the restart of these reactors was given after extensive and detailed assessments of the respective safety cases by specialist ONR inspectors.

In October we announced an Information Exchange Arrangement (IEA) with the Canadian Nuclear Safety Commission (CNSC). The IEA is a bilateral agreement between our two organisations which provides a framework for the sharing of information, experience, and good practice to enable both parties to learn from and train each other on technical regulatory issues. It also allows for more effective communication between the two regulators. The agreement had already been used to develop a Memorandum of Cooperation (MoC) between ONR and the CNSC which allows the sharing of best practices and experience around reviewing advanced reactor and small modular reactor (SMR) technologies.

In November, our Chief Nuclear Inspector (CNI), Mark Foy, published his annual report detailing the performance of Great Britain's nuclear industry during 2019/20. The CNI reports he is satisfied that overall, the nuclear industry has continued to meet the high standards of safety and security required to protect workers and the public. In areas where dutyholders have fallen short of these standards, the CNI is satisfied that these facilities remain safe and that ONR has intervened in a proportionate manner to ensure plans are in place to improve performance.

In November, we played a leading role in the first ever virtual IRRS Mission. The virtual mission to Lithuania was conducted via the IAEA's International Regulatory Review Service and explored the feasibility of using modern communications tools for future missions. The mission was led by ONR's Technical Director Dr Anthony Hart and supported by Superintending Inspector Colin Tait. Other countries taking part in the mission included Canada, Pakistan, Finland and the Netherlands.

In December, we became the UK's nuclear safeguards regulator, in charge of the domestic safeguards regime and operating the UK State System of Accountancy for, and Control of,

Nuclear Materials (SSAC). Following the end of the transition period as laid out in the Withdrawal Agreement, ONR assumed its responsibilities at 23.00 on Thursday 31 December 2020. This has been a major project for ONR, setting up a new team, new systems and new processes, led by Dr Mina Golshan.

Since being tasked by Government to establish a domestic safeguards regime after Brexit, we have developed a team of safeguards specialists, including inspectors and nuclear material accountants, and implemented a bespoke IT system, SIMRS (Safeguards Information Reporting and Management System).

Nuclear safeguards are measures to verify that countries comply with their international obligations not to use nuclear materials from their civil nuclear programmes to manufacture nuclear weapons. The safeguards work remains a key priority for the organisation and sits in our Civil Nuclear Security and Safeguards Division.

## **Corporate updates**

In July we published our new 2020-25 Strategy, which sets out our direction and priorities for the next five years. It builds on our strengths and continues to focus on protecting society and addressing the changing demands we will face as the UK's nuclear regulator.

In late September we published our Annual Report and Accounts highlighting our performance and key achievements for 2019/20. The report notes that we continued to deliver our mission of protecting society by securing safe nuclear operations and that the majority of dutyholders have continued to meet the high standards of safety and security required. Where dutyholders have fallen short of such standards, we are satisfied that their facilities remain safe and that our regulatory focus has had a positive impact on their performance. During the year, we completed more than 800 compliance inspections across 36 licensed sites during 2019/20, granting permission for 30 nuclear-related activities, serving three improvement notices and instigating one prosecution.

In September we announced that Jean Llewellyn OBE had been appointed to the ONR Board as the new Security Non-Executive member. Jean will take up her appointment on 1 October 2020 for a three-year term and will Chair ONR's Security Committee.

In October, we announced that Chief Executive Adrienne Kelbie had been appointed a Commander of the Order of the British Empire (CBE) in the Queen's Birthday Honours List 2020 for services to the nuclear industry and to diversity and inclusion. Adrienne said: "This honour is a tribute to the ONR team and all others who work tirelessly to create a more inclusive world and safe nuclear sector, as well as those on the long and sometimes arduous journey of leadership and self-development. Inclusion goes hand in hand with safety, because diverse teams are essential to improve decision making – therefore it's a non-negotiable in nuclear. That's why, as Chief Executive of ONR, I've been personally committed to visibly drive the inclusion agenda and encourage others to do so too."

In December, we announced plans to align our leadership structure to other nuclear regulators around the world with a new combined post of Chief Nuclear Inspector/Chief Executive. Chief Nuclear Inspector Mark Foy will take up the new combined post, subject to detailed government approvals, supported by current Deputy Chief Executive, Sarah High. A new senior regulatory role, Executive Director of Operations/Deputy Chief Inspector, will also be established. The exact timescales have yet to be confirmed, but the changes will come into effect later in 2021.

Under existing contractual arrangements, current Chief Executive Adrienne Kelbie CBE was always expected to step down as her extended term of office comes to an end in January 2022. The change reflects ONR's successful transition into a mature and high performing

organisation since becoming an independent Public Corporation in 2014.

In December, we were delighted to announce that our Deputy Chief Inspector and Director of ONR's Sellafield, Decommissioning, Fuel and Waste Division, Dr Mina Golshan, had been awarded a Commander of the Order of the British Empire (CBE) in the New Year's Honours 2021, for 'services to nuclear regulation'.

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