



Office for Nuclear Regulation (ONR) Quarterly Site Report for Oldbury

Report for period 1 April 2020 - 30 June 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 quarterly to members for the Oldbury Site Stakeholder Group and are also available on the ONR website (<http://www.onr.org.uk/llc/>).

A site inspector from ONR usually attends Oldbury 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

None

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, no routine inspections were undertaken due to Covid-19 restrictions.

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. The site is undertaking work to ensure personnel can safely return to site in the near future.

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 site's 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

Covid-19

ONR is continuing to protect society by securing safe nuclear operations during the Covid-19 (coronavirus) pandemic. Our staff continue to work from home, in line with government advice, with a limited number of our inspectors, as key workers, travelling to site as necessary to conduct urgent and essential regulatory inspections. ONR's latest position can be found on our [website](#).

Enforcement Action

ONR served an Improvement Notice on EDF Energy Nuclear Generation Ltd (EDF Energy) for contravention of the Pressure Systems Safety Regulations (2000) at Heysham 1 Power Station. The notice was served after shortfalls were discovered in the examination and inspection of the Reactor 1 pressure vessel at the Lancashire plant. EDF Energy must comply with the Improvement Notice and complete the eleven overdue examinations by 18 December, 2020.

ONR has granted an extension to an Enforcement Notice served on Urenco UK Ltd, recognising the good progress made so far. The notice was issued in late December 2019, following a fire safety inspection at the Capenhurst Works in Cheshire, which revealed shortfalls in the fire alarm and detection systems at one of the site's facilities. Urenco UK Ltd must comply with the requirements of the extended notice by 30 September, 2020

Regulatory Updates

ONR received an application for a nuclear site licence from NNB Generation Company (SZC) Limited, to construct and operate two EPR™ reactors, at its proposed development in Sizewell, Suffolk. We will now assess the application, partly informed by our previous assessment of the EPR™ at Hinkley Point C – including using the relevant lessons from that assessment, while focusing on aspects specifically relevant to Sizewell C.

Whilst we are satisfied that the application is sufficiently complete to proceed to assessment stage, there is still a lot of work to do – and we do not expect to reach a decision until at least the end of 2021.

6 CONTACTS

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This document is issued by the Office for Nuclear Regulation (ONR). For further information about ONR, or to report inconsistencies or inaccuracies in this publication, please visit <http://www.onr.org.uk/feedback.htm>.

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