

Office for Nuclear Regulation (ONR)

Site Report for Harwell

Report for period 1 July – 31 December 2021

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 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

The ONR site inspector made inspections on the following dates during the report period 1 July to 31 December 2021:

- 21 July 2021
- 13 October 2021

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.

The inspections at the Magnox Ltd Harwell site focused on the following Licence Conditions (LC) and safety regulations:

- LC5 Consignment of nuclear matter
- LC11 Emergency arrangements
- LC25 Operational records
- LC26 Control and supervision of operations
- Transport Regulations for Carriage of Class 7 (Radioactive Materials) Dangerous Goods

During the reporting period, ONR judged the arrangements made and implemented by the site in response to safety requirements to be satisfactory in the areas inspected. Where improvements have been identified, the licensee has made a commitment to address those issues, and ONR inspectors will closely monitor progress during future site inspections. Where necessary, ONR will take formal regulatory enforcement action to ensure that appropriate remedial measures are implemented to reasonably practicable timescales. 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 on our website www.onr.org.uk. Should you have any queries regarding our inspection activities, please email contact@onr.gov.uk.

2.2. Other Work

Throughout this reporting period, including the period of national lockdown, ONR's nominated site safety inspector has held regular telephone meetings with the ML

Harwell leadership team representatives to maintain situational awareness of matters related to nuclear safety. No significant issues were highlighted to ONR.

ONR continue to monitor the implementation of COVID-19 arrangements at the Magnox Ltd Harwell site, it was the opinion of the site inspector that this was in accordance with government guidance and arrangements were in place to reduce the risk from COVID-19 to as low as reasonably practicable.

The ONR project inspector for the Liquid Effluent Treatment Plant delicensing project continues to meet remotely with the project staff at Harwell, supported by ONR specialist inspectors and Public Health England. Discussions on delicensing other areas of the site have commenced.

The ONR Competent Transport Authority has engaged with the duty holder on recertifying approval of the package design for the Modular Packaging for Dragon Fuel DN3358W. This work is ongoing and required to support consignment of material offsite for consolidation at Sellafield Ltd.

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.

There were no such matters or events of significance during the period.

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

5. News from ONR

For the latest news and information from the Office for Nuclear Regulation, please read and subscribe to our regular email newsletter 'ONR News' at www.onr.org.uk/onrnews

6. Contacts

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