

Office for Nuclear Regulation (ONR)

Site Report for Hinkley Point A

Report for period 1 October–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 Hinkley Point Site Stakeholder Group and are also available on the ONR website (<http://www.onr.org.uk/llc/>).

Site inspectors from ONR usually attend Hinkley Point 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

ONR site inspectors made inspections on the following dates during the report period 1 October–31 December 2021:

20 & 21 October

23 November

16 December

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, routine inspections of Hinkley Point A covered the following:

- emergency preparedness;
- incidents on the site;
- security.

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

On 20 & 21 October 2021, ONR inspectors conducted an ageing management inspection of Hinkley Point A site as part of the Chief Nuclear Inspector's (CNI) themed inspection of the management of ageing assets across the UK's nuclear industry. The inspection was informed by a prior self-assessment carried out by the licensee. The CNI themed inspection is intended to seek assurance that sustainable

programmes are implemented for the management of ageing assets against four themes: monitoring of ageing; organisational capability; obsolescence; and ongoing investment. The implementation of ageing management arrangements for both safety and security were inspected. ONR concluded that the licensee's arrangements for ageing management had been adequately implemented and good examples of ongoing efforts to improve ageing management were provided. ONR judged from the evidence sampled that the licensee is effectively monitoring ageing and managing obsolescence at its HPA site.

An ONR inspector met with the site safety representatives on 21 October 2021, to support their function of representing employees and receiving information on matters affecting their health, safety and welfare at work.

On 29 October 2021 an ONR inspector attended the Hinkley Point Site Stakeholder Group meeting.

ONR inspectors met with the licensee and nuclear regulators from the Environment Agency on 29 November 2021 to discuss matters relating to the HPA site's Interim Storage Facility.

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.

Matters and events of particular note during the period were:

On 1 December 2021, the licensee notified ONR about anomalous background radiation readings from a gamma detector forming part of a safety system associated with waste retrieval operations. The licensee advised ONR that relevant waste retrievals had been suspended pending investigation of the faulty equipment and its replacement, and that additional reassurance monitoring was being introduced. Within the reporting period ONR began to gather information on the significance of the incident and the licensee's response.

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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