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| ONR Site Report  EDF Energy – Hinkley Point B |



ONR Site Report

EDF Energy - Hinkley Point B

**Report for period**: 1 January – 30 June 2024

**Authored by**: Nominated Site Inspector

**Approved by**: Head of Regulation

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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 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 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.

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# Inspections

## Date(s) of inspection

During the report period 1 January – 30 June 2024 the ONR site inspector and specialist inspectors made inspections on the following dates:

25 January

13 – 14 February

9 – 10 April

27 June

ONR site security inspectors made inspections on the following dates:

24 March

19 June

# 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 Hinkley Point B covered the following:

* Emergency arrangements
* Control of major accidents

**Emergency Preparedness**

The station is proposing to optimise the on-site emergency arrangements post defueling of reactor 4 to reflect the reducing hazard on the site. This will require a formal approval from ONR. In advance of this request, ONR inspectors evaluated a “proof of concept” exercise on 14 February 2024. This exercise successfully demonstrated that the proposed removal of the defueled reactor desk engineer did not affect the ability to deliver an effective emergency response required under Licence Condition 11.

In addition to attending the “proof of concept” exercise, ONR inspectors will review the associated documentation when the formal request to implement this change is received.

On the 24 March 2024, ONR security inspectors evaluated a demonstration of the station emergency arrangements in responding to a security incident.  Whilst the exercise scenario was judged to be particularly challenging, the required security outcome was not achieved and ONR required a redemonstration was required.

ONR security inspectors observed two separate re-demonstrations on 19 June 2024 and judged that the security response achieved the required outcome. Consequently, ONR has judged that the station’s emergency arrangements are adequate.

**Control of Major Accidents**

On 3 April 2024, Hinkley Point B notified the Competent Authority, ONR and the Environment Agency, that their holdings of dangerous substances has decreased below the COMAH lower tier threshold.

On 9 April 2024, inspectors from ONR and the Environment Agency conducted a COMAH exit inspection at the site to examine the arrangements for moving from a lower tier COMAH site to a sub-COMAH site. The inspection centred on the removal or reduction of key dangerous substances that are either named substances or have the appropriate classification and labelling to be considered as dangerous substances under COMAH.

Based on the pre-inspection information and the site intervention, the Competent Authority judged that the arrangements for the removal and reduction of dangerous substances, pursuant of the COMAH regulations, were adequate. Following the submission of the denotification from COMAH, Hinkley Point B is no longer considered to be a COMAH establishment.

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

The ONR site inspector attended the Site Stakeholder Group meeting held on 26 January 2024.

ONR’s Heads of Regulation for AGR operating reactors also attended site for a familiarisation tour and discussion with the station senior executive team on 27 June 2024.

# 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.

# 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/>.

# 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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