Office for Nuclear Regulation (ONR)
Site Report for
Sizewell B

Report for period 01 January to 31 March 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 Sizewell SSG and are also available on the ONR website (http://www.onr.org.uk/llc/).

Site inspectors from ONR usually attend Sizewell SSG meetings where these reports are presented and will respond to any questions raised there. Any person wishing to enquire 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 January to 31 March 2020:

- 6 to 9 January
- 20 to 23 January
- 24 to 27 February

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 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 (site/station) covered the following:

- radioactive waste management;
- quality assurance and records.

Radioactive waste management

In conjunction with the Environment Agency, the site inspector carried out an inspection of the site's arrangements for compliance with licence condition 32 (accumulation of radioactive waste). The inspection consisted of an examination of the licensee's procedures for the management of lower-level solid waste; visits to waste management and storage locations on site; questioning of licensee staff involved with processing waste and providing waste management advice; and examination of records of waste accumulated on site.

Based on the evidence sampled during the inspection, the site inspector considered that the licensee was adhering to corporate procedures, and had the flexibility to request changes to those procedures if required. It was effective in predicting its waste arisings, and reviewed its working practices to minimise those arisings. Waste was processed by suitably qualified individuals, stored in appropriate locations, and was not accumulated excessively.

Quality assurance and records

A specialist quality assurance inspector carried out an inspection on site as part of ONR's fleet-wide supply chain and quality assurance intervention strategy. The inspection was supported by the site inspector. The inspectors met with the licensee's personnel and sampled the supply chain, quality assurance, dry fuel store, equivalence and obsolescence, and

system engineering arrangements. They also followed up on a regulatory issue previously raised to track improvements to the licensee's quality assurance arrangements.

In general the licensee's arrangements were considered to be adequate. On examination of the implementation of the equivalence and obsolescence process, the inspectors identified that, although the process for managing obsolescence was robust, it was inconsistent with the corporate process in some areas and, as a result, ONR required the licensee to either follow the corporate process or formally document its approach. The inspectors considered that good progress had been made in progressing the regulatory issue by identifying and rectifying shortfalls in the stations quality assurance arrangements.

System-based inspection

In addition to the planned LC compliance inspections, a system-based inspection was carried out focussing on the site's cooling systems, which provide the primary heat removal function for the reactor. A mechanical engineering specialist inspector performed a desktop review of the licensee's arrangements and associated documentation, and visited site with the site inspector to perform a plant walk-down and hold discussions with system engineers, nuclear safety group personnel, and operators. The inspection concluded that the licensee has adequate arrangements in place to ensure that the various cooling systems were inspected, maintained and operated in accordance with their safety cases.

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.

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.

One Licence Instrument was issued during the reporting period, LI number 557, a Specification to submit high-activity sealed source (HASS) returns to ONR. ONR previously issued a Specification requiring the submission of HASS records to ONR for movements of HASS on an annual basis. As part of implementation of the Basic Safety Standards Directive (Council Directive 2013/59/Euratom of 5 December 2013) in the UK, ONR issued a new HASS Specification to reflect changes in the Directive and corresponding UK legislation and these supersede the previous Specification. LI number 557 requires that movements of HASS onto and off the site are notified to ONR without undue delay and in any event within 40 calendar days of the movement. Additionally, confirmation of all HASS holdings on site should be provided every five years, beginning in January 2024.

5 NEWS FROM ONR

Insight into ONR's work as an independent regulator of the nuclear industry can be found in ONR's Regulation Matters. The online publication (http://www.onr.org.uk/regulation-

matters.htm) reports on the key themes and developments in each of ONR's regulatory programmes and provides an update about the ongoing changes at ONR. http://www.onr.org.uk/index.htm. For the latest news and updates from ONR visit the website and sign up for our ebulletin (http://www.onr.org.uk/ebulletin/index.htm).

Below are summaries of key activities over the last three months. Further detail is available on our website.

5.1 Covid-19 (Coronavirus) (ONR position)

ONR is continuing to protect society by securing safe nuclear operations during the Coronavirus pandemic. ONR staff continue to work from home, in line with government advice. We have considered our priorities, have deferred non-critical activities, and are carrying out as much of our work as possible via videoconference, phone and email. Our regulatory focus includes assurance, where appropriate, from site licensees that they are applying the public health measures introduced to reduce the spread of coronavirus. A limited number of our inspectors can, as key workers, continue to travel to site as necessary to conduct urgent and essential regulatory inspections. Nuclear sites have been reducing non-essential activities so as to protect staff, infrastructure, and the public. As always, we are regulating those activities to ensure they are carried out safely and securely. ONR's latest position can be found on our website.

5.2 Enforcement Action

ONR served an Enforcement Notice on Urenco UK Ltd following a fire safety inspection at its Capenhurst Works in Cheshire during December 2019. The notice was issued in response to shortfalls identified in the fire alarm and detection systems at one of the site's facilities.

In February ONR announced that Sellafield Limited had complied with an Improvement Notice relating to staff training, operating procedures and procedural adherence that they were served with in May 2019.

5.3 Regulatory Updates

In January ONR published an update to its Safety Assessment Principles, to incorporate some relatively minor revisions including typographical corrections and updates to reflect changes to the UK's nuclear regulatory framework since 2014.

In February ONR completed Step 3 of the Generic Design Assessment (GDA) of the UK HPR1000 design, and took the decision to progress to Step 4 of the GDA. During Step 3, ONR increased its regulatory scrutiny and undertook a more detailed assessment of the design, focusing on the methods and approaches used by the GDA Requesting Party to underpin their safety and security claims.

In March we published the Quarterly Statement of Civil Incidents for the period 1 October to 31 December 2019. During this reporting period there were two civil incidents at nuclear licensed sites within Great Britain that met the Ministerial Reporting Criteria as defined within the Nuclear Installations (Dangerous Occurrences) Regulations 1965 and ONR guidance in relation to notifying and reporting incidents and events.

5.4 Stakeholder Engagement

On 15 January ONR launched a four-week public consultation on its draft 2025 Strategy. Once agreed, the strategy will set our direction and priorities for the next five years. To support the public consultation we held a webinar for NGOs and other stakeholders in which our Chief Executive, Adrièn Kelbie, and Technical Director, Anthony Hart, gave an overview

of the strategy and welcomed questions and comments. The strategy is due to be published in May 2020.

In January, ONR achieved Level 3 Disability Confident (Leader) status, recognising our desire to put people first and create an environment in which everyone can thrive. The government-backed scheme encourages employers to think differently about disability and take action to improve how they recruit, retain and develop disabled people.

In February, we announced the appointment of two **new members to the ONR Board.** Dr Janet Wilson took up the appointment on 1 April 2020 and Tracey Matthews will take up her appointment on 1 June 2020 – both appointments are for five year terms.

In February more than 70 stakeholders involved in the transport of radioactive material attended a conference organised by ONR's Transport Competent Authority (TCA) team. The event provided a good opportunity for the TCA team to share their expectations on compliance with regulations governing the transport of radioactive material.

6 CONTACTS

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