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| ONR Site Report  EDF Energy – Hunterston B |



ONR Site Report

EDF Energy - Hunterston B

Report for period: 1 December 2023 – 31 May 2024

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Approved by: Delivery Lead Operating Reactors

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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 Hunterston Site Stakeholder Group and are also available on the ONR website (<http://www.onr.org.uk/llc/>).

Site inspectors from ONR usually attend Hunterston 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

The ONR site inspector and specialist inspectors made inspections on the following dates during the report period 1 December 2023 – 31 May 2024:

6 February

26 - 27 March

16 - 17, 23 - 24 April

30 May

The ONR site security inspector made inspections on the following dates:

9 - 10 January

# 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 Hunterston B covered the following:

* Management of Change
* Emergency Arrangements
* Decommissioning

**Management of Change**

On 6 February 2024, ONR inspectors attended site to discuss the station proposals for the Hunterston B overarching Management of Organisational Change (MOC) proposal for introduction of the deconstruction organisation at the site. This precedes planned transfer of the site to ownership by Nuclear Restoration Services. The overarching MOC does not enact any change itself but provides the basis for development of a series of department-by-department enacting MOCs.

ONR provided comments on these draft documents and will review the final overarching MOC to inform the ONR regulatory footprint for the enacting MOCs which will follow.

**Emergency Arrangements**

On 27 March 2024, ONR inspectors evaluated a demonstration of the station emergency arrangements. The emergency exercise was judged to be an adequate and effective challenge to the emergency response arrangements required under Licence Condition 11. As with all exercises, some learning opportunities were identified – in this case crime scene management, where there has been a potential fatality and on-site medical treatment of contaminated casualties.

**Decommissioning**

On 30 May 2024, ONR inspectors carried out a joint inspection of the Hunterston B decommissioning plan with the Scottish Environment Protection Agency (SEPA). The purpose of the inspection was to review the adequacy of Hunterston B’s planning for decommissioning specifically the site specific decommissioning plan.

The inspection focussed on the station’s strategy for decommissioning and planning for de-planting activities to allow entry to care and maintenance. Overall ONR judged that the station had suitable arrangements in place for the decommissioning of the site and implementation of the decommissioning programmes.

We reviewed the key stages of the plan including the active area risk based de-planting and non-active areas managed retreat to demolition as well as the proposed end states. ONR judged that the Hunterston B site specific decommissioning plan meets the requirements of Licence Condition 35 – Decommissioning.

Implementation of the decommissioning plan will be monitored through future ONR interventions.

**Nuclear Reactors (Environmental Impact Assessment for Decommissioning Regulations) (EIADR)**

The Nuclear Reactors (Environmental Impact Assessment for Decommissioning) Regulations, 1999, as amended (EIADR) is a legal instrument that requires the environmental impact of decommissioning nuclear power stations and other nuclear reactors to be considered in detail before consent for the decommissioning project to commence can be granted. To obtain consent, the dutyholder submits an environmental statement to ONR which presents a detailed environmental impact assessment for the proposed decommissioning project and any features of the project or measures envisaged to avoid, prevent or reduce and, if possible, offset, any likely significant adverse effects on the environment. Further information can be found [here](https://www.onr.org.uk/our-work/what-we-regulate/sellafield-decommissioning-fuel-and-waste/decommissioning-fuel-and-waste/decommissioning/eiadr/).

On 1 December 2023, EDF Energy Nuclear Generation Ltd submitted to ONR its Application for Consent to decommission the Hunterston B site under EIADR. Since then, ONR has conducted a three-month consultation with the relevant consultation bodies, which includes SEPA, the local highway and planning authorities, together with the public and any other interested parties. ONR is now considering the application and the consultation responses and is expecting to issue a consent decision in early July. The decision will be documented in a Project Assessment Report and the consultees will be informed when this document is available on ONR’s website.

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).

# 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.

**Table 1: Licence Instruments and Enforcement Notices Issued by ONR during this period.**

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Date | Type | Ref. No. | Description |
|  |  |  |  |
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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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