

Hunterston Site Stakeholder Group

SEPA Update on Hunterston B

HUNTERSTON SITE STAKEHOLDER GROUP MEETING,

2nd March 2017 at the Lauriston Hotel, Ardrossan

Regulation

Radioactive Substances Act 1993 (RSA)

SEPA staff has formally inspected the station in relation to its RSA Authorisation twice since the last SSG meeting. On 13 December 2016, SEPA staff carried out an annual wash-up visit in which a number of outstanding actions were closed out. The inspection scheduled for 7 February 2017 was intended to be a joint inspection with ONR; however, the ONR inspector was unable to attend. The inspection focused on the station's disposals of radioactive waste by transfer to another person and the bedding in of the latest variation. No contraventions were noted.

SEPA staff participated in a Level 4 Decommissioning & Defueling teleconference with EDF, EA and ONR on 23 January 2017 in order to receive an update on EDF corporate developments with regard to safety case amendments involved with defueling. SEPA staff are also scheduled to participate in another Level 4 Decommissioning & Defueling meeting in Bootle on 23 February 2017 in order to further discuss the issues around decommissioning of the AGR fleet.

Pollution Prevention & Control (PPC)

There have been no issues relating to the station's PPC permit for its non-radioactive emissions from the emergency diesel generators, auxiliary boilers and waste oil burner since the last scheduled SSG meeting.

Control of Major Accidents Hazards (COMAH)

There have been no issues relating to COMAH since the last scheduled SSG meeting.

Controlled Activities Regulations (CAR)

The sewage treatment plant continues to be subject to enforcement sampling by SEPA due to a previous pH failure. Otherwise, there have been no issues relating to the station's CAR licences since the last scheduled SSG meeting.

European Union Emission Trading Scheme (EUETS)

There were no issues relating to the station's EUETS permit since the last scheduled SSG meeting.

Events

There were no reportable incidents, complaints or non-compliance events affecting SEPA's interests at the station known to have occurred since the last meeting of the SSG at the time of writing this report.

Compliance for 2016

In accordance with SEPA's Compliance Assessment Scheme, the station's compliance with its RSA authorisation, PPC permit and 3 out of the 4 CAR licences have been rated as "excellent" for 2016. The fourth CAR licence, relating to the discharge from the on-site sewage works, has been rated as "good" due to the contravention of its pH limit.

Radioactivity in Food & the Environment (RIFE)

SEPA works together with the Environment Agency, Natural Resources Wales, Northern Ireland Environment Agency, Food Standards Scotland and Food Standards Agency on the radiological monitoring of food and the environment, and in publishing the results. The reports aim to provide an in-depth assessment of radioactivity in food and the environment in the UK and the public's exposure to radiation. The reports focus on key information that demonstrates both that food remains safe and that the public's exposure to ionising radiation is within legal limits.

The latest edition (RIFE 21) covering 2015 has been published and electronic copies can be obtained from SEPA's website: www.sepa.org.uk under "*Environment/Radioactive Substances/Environmental monitoring and assessment/Reports*".

Scottish Pollutant Release Inventory (SPRI)

The Scottish Pollutant Release Inventory (SPRI) is a publicly accessible electronic database of releases of pollutants to all environmental media and transfers of non-radioactive waste. SEPA intends that, as far as practicable, SPRI be the principle means by which information on Scottish pollutant releases and non-radioactive waste transfers is collected and made public. Wherever possible, such information will be collected and presented by this one system.

The data for 2015, including that from Hunterston B, have been published and are available on SEPA's website: www.sepa.org.uk under "*Environment/Environmental data/SPRI*".

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