



Office for Nuclear Regulation (ONR) Quarterly Site Report for Sizewell A

Report for period 1st October to 31st December 2017

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 quarterly to members for the Sizewell Site Stakeholder Group and are also available on the ONR website (<http://www.onr.org.uk/llic/>).

Site inspectors from ONR may attend Sizewell 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

The ONR site inspector made planned inspections on the following dates during the quarter:

- 12 - 13 December 2017

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 1999 (IRR99) and the Management of Health and Safety at Work Regulations 1999 (MHSWR99);
- The Nuclear Industry Security Regulations (NISR) 2003.

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 conditions attached to the licence in order to ensure legal compliance. Inspections seek to judge both the adequacy of these arrangements and their implementation.

The inspection this quarter included a System Based Inspection (SBI) of the SVSAVD system (Splitter Vane Stores Advanced Vacuum Drying System- Fuel Element Debris (FED) retrievals). This inspection focussed specifically on the preparations to empty the Fuel Element Debris (FED) vaults. The arrangements and plant being put into place for this work are judged to be adequate conforming to industry good practice. A high level plant design proposal has been agreed and is shortly to be put forward for detailed design. This project builds on the knowledge and experience gained with previous FED retrieval projects at other sites whilst is taking care to maintain a proportionate approach to the specific needs of the site.

The inspection also included a review of the arrangements being derived to manage the Bradwell site remotely from Sizewell A as part of the Bradwell site's entry into Care and Maintenance (C&M). The site was judged to be making reasonable progress in developing the arrangements for remote management of the Bradwell Site. A specific team is to be formed for management of Bradwell under a member of the leadership team at Sizewell A. Training of the Sizewell staff will be enhanced by retention, where appropriate, of Bradwell staff during the transitional period.

3 NON-ROUTINE MATTERS

Licensees are required to have arrangements to respond to non-routine matters and events and report significant events to ONR. ONR inspectors judge the adequacy of the licensee's response, including actions taken to implement any necessary improvements.

In this period no significant incidents on the site were reported to ONR from Sizewell A.

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 issue Enforcement Notices to secure improvements to safety.

No Licence Instruments or Enforcement Notices have been issued during the period for Sizewell A.

Reports detailing ONR's regulatory decisions can be found on the ONR website at <http://www.onr.org.uk/pars/>.

5 NEWS FROM ONR

New build:

New nuclear power station design approved:

The UK Advanced Boiling Water Reactor (UK ABWR), designed by Hitachi-GE, is suitable for construction in the UK, the regulators confirmed following completion of an in-depth assessment of the nuclear reactor design. The Office for Nuclear Regulation (ONR), the Environment Agency and Natural Resources Wales, the regulators who undertake the Generic Design Assessment of new reactor designs, are satisfied that this reactor meets regulatory expectations on safety, security and environmental protection at this stage of the regulatory process.

ONR has issued a Design Acceptance Confirmation (DAC) and the environment agencies have issued a Statement of Design Acceptability (SoDA) to Hitachi-GE.

Step 2 of nuclear reactor assessment:

We also announced on 16th November that we are progressing to the next phase of our assessment of General Nuclear System Ltd's UK HPR1000 reactor technology. This means we will now begin the technical assessment phase. Additionally, all members of the public can give their views and find out more information about the design by going to UKHPR 1000 website at www.ukhpr1000.com

Other news:

ONR response to BEIS impact assessment:

The Department for Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy (BEIS) has recently published its Impact Assessment of the Nuclear Safeguards' Bill and that makes reference to ONR's regulation. We contacted BEIS to clarify two points within the document as part of our ongoing constructive engagement with them to develop a domestic safeguards regime as part of exiting Euratom. The first is that ONR regulates the nuclear industry, it does not provide services to it.

Secondly, the Government's policy has developed since the assessment was undertaken and the intention is to put in place a regulatory framework which is robust and as comprehensive as Euratom. This means that we are not in a position to identify potential efficiencies in our regulatory approach at this stage. As we support BEIS in its development of secondary

legislation, we will provide advice to the Government to inform the anticipated impact assessment for nuclear safeguards regulation.

For the latest news and updates from ONR, you can visit our website and sign up for our e-bulletin: <http://www.onr.org.uk/index.htm>.

6 CONTACTS

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This document is issued by the Office for Nuclear Regulation (ONR). For further information about ONR, or to report inconsistencies or inaccuracies in this publication please visit <http://www.onr.org.uk/feedback.htm>.

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