

Sizewell A Report – June 2014

Prepared: 12 May 2014

Safety and compliance

As at 12 May 2014 it has been 893 days (c. 29 months) since the site's last Lost Time Accident.

People

The site currently has a workforce of 429, comprised of:

- 312 Magnox staff
- 10 agency-supplied workers
- 115 contractors

Defuelling

Since the last meeting of the stakeholder group, defuelling and fuel shipments have been progressing well. By the time of the Site Stakeholder Group (SSG) Annual General Meeting meeting, defuelling of reactor one is likely to be complete with reactor two following very shortly afterward. This means that the site will have a relatively small amount of fuel stored in the ponds which will be shipped throughout June and July with the last flask anticipated to leave the site early in August.

Sizewell A exceeded its target of shipping 240 tonnes of fuel in 2013/14 (249.3 tonnes were dispatched) and the site is well placed to complete defuelling ahead of the Department of Energy and Climate Change target of September 2014.

Current defuelling status (at 12 May 2014)

	% Defuelled	Elements remaining	% Verified fuel-free
Reactor one	96.83%	839	64.27%
Reactor two	93.66%	1679	70.77%
	Elements	Skips	
Pond stock	2697	16	
	Tonnes	Flasks	
Despatched (total)	574.63	283	
Despatched (YTD)	29.46	14	

The site will then focus its efforts on fuel free verification of the dry side of its fuel route while fuel shipments continue. Once the last flask leaves, site verification of the ponds and flask dispatch areas will take place. It is anticipated that this work will continue until the end of the calendar year. During this time the site will be working closely with the Office for Nuclear Regulation (ONR) to establish fuel free status.

Transition to decommissioning structure

Magnox staff were informed, at about the time of the last SSG meeting, about the roles that they would have in the future decommissioning organisation. Over 95 per cent of staff achieved their first aspiration of on-going employment on the site or selective voluntary severance (SVS). Less than half a dozen people had wanted a continuing role were not placed in the structure and the site is working hard to support them in securing future employment. A comprehensive training programme is now underway to prepare people for their new roles.

The other work streams necessary to enable the site to transition into a decommissioning site are well advanced and on track.

The outcome of the Nuclear Decommissioning Authority's (NDA) competition for the future Parent Body Organisation (PBO) has now been published. The preferred bidder for the new PBO contract is Cavendish-Fluor and they are planned to take over the PBO contract on 1 September 2014. A number of the Cavendish-Fluor directors recently visited the site and held an informative stand-down for Magnox staff. This was followed by a tour of the site and preliminary discussions with the site management team and Trade Union representatives.

Emergency scheme

The ONR has recently announced a change to the Detailed Emergency Planning Zone (DEPZ) for the Sizewell A and B sites. Magnox is working with other stakeholders to implement this change in the Sizewell A Emergency Plan.

Turbine hall asbestos removal

This project has started recently and is to be completed in June 2015.

Asbestos Containing Materials (ACM) were widely used during the construction of Sizewell A. Asbestos can be found in, but not limited to, insulation materials, construction materials, floor and ceiling tiles and electrical switchgear and is prevalent within the turbine hall.

Exposure to all types of asbestos can cause asbestos-related diseases and is most dangerous when it is disturbed or damaged.

To enable the safe removal of the bulk asbestos, Hertel, a licensed contractor has been engaged to carry out the works. When carried out by these licensed contractors under supervised asbestos removal conditions and complying with current regulations, exposure to harmful asbestos fibres will be kept to a minimum and below legal levels.

The scope of the project covers the removal of bulk thermal insulation from the site's turbine hall pipe work and vessels. In addition, removal of ACM from the reserve feed-water tanks external pipework.

There will still be some asbestos contained in gaskets and other materials but this will be dealt with prior to demolition of the turbine hall.



Planning for the future

Active effluent treatment plant: tank refurbishment

Project purpose: Overhaul the ageing active effluent treatment plant, ensuring it remains operable and compliant for the essential role of maintaining pond water conditions during defuelling and for effluent treatment in decommissioning.

Work is in progress to refurbish Final Monitoring and Delay Tank 2 (FMDT2). This is the second of the two final monitoring and delay tanks to be refurbished. So far, the condition of the tank is as expected and will require some minor concrete repairs followed by the application of a new spray coat that will form a new internal lining.

Electrical overlay

Project purpose: Provide alternative electrical infrastructure to meet the needs of Care and Maintenance. Completion is a key enabler for demolition of conventional plant and structures.

The electrical overlay system is in place; all that remains is to enable the off-site connection from Sizewell B.

Work continues on installation of the 11kV supply cable with the project teams at A and B sites working closely to ensure connection before July 2014.

Control and instrumentation overlay

Project purpose: Provide sustainable control and instrumentation infrastructure, ensuring compliance and business continuity through the site's Care and Maintenance phase and beyond.

The installation of new alarm, fire detection, security, IT and telecoms systems are complete. Site engineers are increasing the frequency of testing on the new radio system. Work continues to produce the testing and commissioning documentation in preparation for the full changeover. These alternative systems are a key enabler in the workforce retreating from the demolition areas and leaving redundant buildings ready for full isolation and demolition.

Fukushima response

Project purpose: Identify and implement plant enhancements and management arrangements that will increase the site's resilience to an extreme event.

All physical work has now been completed on this project. Training and familiarisation for operators has been completed and the final documents are being produced to allow the project to be closed.

Socio-economic scheme

Coastal Accessible Transport Services (CATS)

The scheme has recently committed funding towards a new bus for use by those in the local community who have mobility or other disabilities either long or short term. This bus replaces an older, less reliable vehicle and will be vital to the community completing 3,500-4,000 passenger journeys per annum.

Saxmundham Music Festival

With funding from Magnox, the Brook Farm Residents Association will be running a project to encourage the youth of Saxmundham into creative music, culminating in a showcase event. There will be a series of music workshops to develop local talent leading to a professionally managed outdoor music event.

Southwold and Reydon Corps of Drums

The scheme has recently helped to revive an endangered tradition by committing funds to this drum corps, aiding additional recruitment and requests for band performances in the local area. The funds will also help towards purchasing the specialist uniforms; equipment and instruments that the drum corps needs to put on their unique performances.

Applications from local groups are encouraged. Please visit: www.magnoxsocioeconomic.com.

Contacts

Haleana Knights, Communications Support Officer

Tel: 01728 633647

Email: haleana.knights@magnoxsites.com

Paul Hetherington, Communications Manager

Tel: 01453 812564

Email: paul.hetherington@magnoxsites.com