



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

Report for period 1 July – 30 September 2016

## 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 sites stakeholder group and are available on the ONR website (<http://www.onr.org.uk/llc/>).

Site inspectors from ONR usually attend Sizewell sites 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 nominated site inspector made inspections on the following dates during the quarter:

5 – 7 July  
19 – 21 July  
27 – 29 Sep

ONR specialist inspectors carried out inspection visits on the following dates during the quarter:

20 – 21 July  
6 Sep  
27 – 29 Sep

ONR Superintending Inspector visited on the following dates:

20 – 21 July

## 2 ROUTINE MATTERS

### 2.1 Inspections at Sizewell B

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 Regulatory Reform (Fire Safety) Order 2005
- the Nuclear Industries Security Regulations 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 the majority of 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, the following routine licence condition compliance inspections were undertaken:

Licence Condition 2: Marking of the site boundary

Licence Condition 11: Emergency arrangements

Licence Condition 22: Modifications or experiment on existing plant

In general, ONR judged the arrangements made and implemented by the site in response to safety requirements to be adequate in the areas inspected. However, where improvements were considered necessary, the licensee made satisfactory commitments to address the issues, and the nominated site inspector will monitor progress during future visits. Where necessary, ONR will take formal regulatory enforcement action to ensure that appropriate remedial measures are implemented to reasonably practicable timescales.

## System Based Inspections

In addition to ONR's programme of site licence compliance inspections, we also inspect operating reactors based on safety related systems. Each reactor has a safety case, which identifies the important aspects of operation and management required for maintaining safety.

For Sizewell B, the key systems important to nuclear safety will be inspected against the requirements of the safety case. We plan to inspect all the safety significant systems over a five-year period. ONR considers that this will provide additional assurance that operations on the site are safe. Each of these inspections considers the relevant licence conditions below:

Licence condition 10: Training

Licence condition 23: Operating rules

Licence condition 24: Operating instructions

Licence condition 27: Safety mechanisms

Licence condition 28: Examination, inspection, maintenance and testing

Licence condition 34: Leakage and escape of radioactive material and radioactive waste

During the reporting period, the following systems were inspected:

- Civil structures, secondary containment enclosure building.

The secondary containment enclosure building is constructed from reinforced concrete and has a safety related role to provide a secondary boundary to prevent the release of fission products to the environment, from the primary containment or its supporting plant. The intervention was supported by an ONR civil engineering specialist inspector and undertaken jointly with evaluators from the independent nuclear assurance group. ONR judged that overall the systems and structures met the requirements of the safety case and are being adequately managed and maintained.

## Dry Fuel Store (DFS) Project

EDF Energy Nuclear Generation Ltd is in the process of constructing a Dry Fuel Store facility on the Sizewell B licensed site. As part of the regulatory decision-making to issue consent to commence active commissioning of the facility, the following licence condition compliance inspections were undertaken during this period:

Licence Condition 22: Modifications or experiment on existing plant

The inspection findings were positive, demonstrating that EDF NGL has adequate arrangements to control modifications to existing plant. Further inspections are planned to inform ONR's issue of consent.

## On Site Emergency Arrangements Exercise

A team of ONR inspectors observed a demonstration exercise of the site's emergency arrangements for dealing with any accident or emergency arising on the site and their effects. The exercise scenario was considered to present a good challenge to test the resilience of sites' emergency arrangements. The incident was brought under control in a satisfactory timescale and the exercise demonstrated a number of areas of good practice and identified areas where further improvement could be made. Learning from the exercise will be taken forward through the site's emergency arrangements improvement programme. The ONR assessment team considered the exercise to be an adequate demonstration of Sizewell B's emergency arrangements under Licence Condition (LC) 11.

Further details of ONR's intervention records can be found at <http://www.onr.org.uk/intervention-records>.

## 2.2 Other work

### Lifetime Records

As was reported in the last quarter, ONR has undertaken an independent review of the Sizewell B lifetime records following the revelation of historical production anomalies of forgings produced at Areva's Le Creusot facility in France. This review has found no matters that challenge the continued safe operation of the reactor. ONR continue to monitor developments in this area, including matters raised by the French nuclear safety regulator ASN, to ensure any potential impact to the safety case is considered. ONR intends to publish the outcome of this review on its website in 2017.

## 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.

From the reporting sampled during this period, the ONR inspector is satisfied that incidents reported on the site are being adequately recorded, investigated and reported by the licensee. No other matters of concern have been raised that require further regulatory action at this time.

## 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 instruments were issued during this period.

Reports detailing regulatory decisions can be found on the ONR website at [www.onr.org.uk/pars/](http://www.onr.org.uk/pars/).

## 5 NEWS FROM ONR

### Regulation Matters magazine

Insight into ONR's work as an independent regulator of the nuclear industry can be found in Regulation Matters. This quarterly 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.

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

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