



# Site Stakeholder Group

## Dungeness B Report – Summer 2018

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## Introduction

This report has been designed to complement the community newsletters that are circulated to SSG members and published on the [Dungeness B website](#) each month.

## Safety

At EDF Energy, safety is our overriding priority.

There have been no significant issues since the last report in May.

We've recorded eight injuries in the last six months, the most serious being two hand injuries by maintenance technicians working for our contract partners during the statutory outage.

In response we have launched a station-wide safety campaign, reminding everyone to 'do the right thing and think about safety at all times'.

In May we took part in a successful '**Level 2' Emergency Exercise** involving various agencies such as Kent County Council, the local authorities, Kent Police, Fire and Ambulance Services and local public health services.

The exercise was overseen by the Office for Nuclear Regulation and was a good test of the station's emergency plan. We undertake these types of exercises every three years to allow all organisations to practice their roles.

## Plant update

Dungeness B has already had a very successful year and has safely generated more than five terawatt hours so far in 2018. This is enough low-carbon electricity to power an area similar in size to Kent and Sussex combined.

It has also been very busy as we have carried out important maintenance work to ensure the station can continue to safely provide low-carbon electricity until 2028 and beyond.



At the end of August we shut down one of the reactors, Unit 22, for its planned maintenance programme known as a '**statutory outage**'. These outages are carried out on each of the station's two reactors every three years and are planned in advance with the National Grid to ensure that there is no impact on the national electricity supply.

← Operations Manager Steve Lay (right) hands the plant over to Strategic Outage Manager Keith Hartley (left).

During this shutdown, which will last around three months, the station is welcoming around 500 extra workers providing a significant boost to the local economy by staying in local hotels and B&B's, eating in restaurants and using local taxi firms.

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## Projects

Construction of the station's **new sewage plant** is underway. The station has continued to use the large sewage plant that was shared with Dungeness A, but that station has now installed its own plant. The plan is for our plant to be operational by mid-2019.



We are also in the process of building a **new nitrogen storage and injection system** (left). The station would use nitrogen as part of its safety systems. The existing nitrogen system has been in operation since Dungeness B was first commissioned and due, in part, to the recent extension of operating life of the station, needs a modern equivalent which will be in place in early 2019.

We are again delivering in excess of £50m worth of plant upgrades and improvements on line with our 2028+ ambitions.

## Environment

Since the last report in May, there have been no environmental events reported at the station.

Monitoring of the March 2018 small fuel oil leak has continued over the past quarter. The impact of the leak has been monitored and a specialist contractor is assisting with the assessing the impact the leak.

The station and Environment Agency are working together on the best strategy to manage the impact of the leak going forward.

On the 18 July, the station received a letter from the Environment Agency regarding an active waste metal consignment that was sent to an off-site radioactive waste processing site in August 2017. An error was made when packing the consignment, putting more metal in the container than stated in the waste consignment declaration.

The additional metal did not pose a hazard to the public or the environment but all transfers of radioactive waste must be accurately described to ensure the disposal site is able to receive the waste.

EDF Energy takes its waste management responsibilities very seriously and we have since completed a full internal investigation. As a result a number of improvements, including staff training and process improvements have been put in place to prevent this issues from happening again.

## Apprentices

We currently have 22 apprentices and welcomed another four apprentices, two men and two women, in September who began their training at Bridgwater & Taunton College. They are pictured here, from left to right, Rebecca Godden, Tia Brant, Ciaran Healy and Conor Raine.



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Last year's cohort of six apprentices, including two young women, have now completed their first year at the Engineering Training Academy at the Royal Naval Base, HMS Sultan near Portsmouth.

## Recruitment

The station is currently recruiting for between 10 and 15 new maintenance technicians. Anyone interested and has a mechanical, electrical or control and instrumentation background is encouraged to get in touch with the recruitment team by emailing [dgb.hr@edf-energy.com](mailto:dgb.hr@edf-energy.com)

## Promoting STEM

We are actively trying to encourage more girls to take up STEM (science, technology, engineering and maths) subjects at school to improve diversity in the workplace. Since November 2017 we have welcomed more than 700 girls from over 30 local schools on tours of Dungeness B.

In support of the Government's Year of Engineering, we have run two 'STEM Club' events over the school holidays, welcoming over 50 children. This gives the youngsters the opportunity to go on an 'Exploring Electricity' plant tour and undertake some engineering activities in our visitor centre.



We also welcomed 25 pupils from two North London schools as part of the Energy Efficiency project (right). The project, launched by EDF Energy and the Transformation Trust, encourages youngsters to come up with their own energy efficiency campaigns to inspire their families, friends and communities.

The visitor centre also hosted a range of other science and craft events to inspire the next generation of nuclear engineers.

## Charity fundraising

Since September 2016, Dungeness B has raised more than £12,700 for the company's official charity partner, Breast Cancer Now.

Station staff have organised a range of events in support of the charity, with Operations Technician Chris Cavanagh raising over £1000 by running a half-marathon in September.

Local singers, The Haywardians, hope to raise another £1000 for the charity with their 'Last Night of the Proms' concert at All Saints Church in Lydd on 27 October. Tickets are £5 each and available from the visitor centre.

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## Visitor centre activity

The visitor centre celebrated its fifth birthday on 15 February and since opening in 2013 we have taken 24,000 people around the station on tour.

So far this year we have welcomed 3400 people on tour and already have 2500 people booked for tours next year.

As well as site tours, the team have been involved with many other activities throughout the year with Kent Children's University and visiting local primary schools.

We continue to work closely with our neighbours and have hosted three 'Discovering Dungeness' days over the summer in association with the Romney Marsh Countryside Partnership and the Romney, Hythe and Dymchurch Railway. Visitors arrived at Dungeness on a miniature steam train, enjoyed a nature trail walk before having a tour of the power station. Due to the success of the days, similar events have already been planned for next summer.



## Local community and sponsorship

The power station supported a variety of local community events by sponsoring and attending Lydd Club Day and New Romney Country Fayre. The station also sponsored the community band stage at this year's Rye International Jazz Festival & Hythe Festival.



The station has been pleased to support events held by our neighbours at the RLNI at both Dungeness and Littlestone during the summer.

The visitor centre team (left) has continued to foster good relationships with many local wildlife organisations including the Bumble Bee Conservation Trust, the RSPB Dungeness Nature Reserve and at the Rare Breeds Centre in Woodchurch.

Local groups are encouraged to get in touch with Alison Prentice at the visitor centre by emailing [dbgtours@edf-energy.com](mailto:dbgtours@edf-energy.com) if they are interested in using the centre as a free resource for any upcoming community events.

## Dungeness estate

We are very proud of our association with the Dungeness estate, which EDF Energy has owned since 2015, and we are committed to being responsible landowners of this unique and special landscape.

We continue to work closely with the Romney Marsh Countryside Partnership to keep the estate well maintained and looked after.

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## Shingle

The bank of shingle around Dungeness B is one of many layers of flood defence for the power station. The shingle ridge needs to be maintained at a certain height and width to help defend against flooding in extreme events.

Over time and in severe weather, the sea moves the shingle further down the beach and so to ensure it is maintained at the acceptable level, it needs to be replaced from further down the beach on the Dungeness estate.

We endeavour to give residents as much notice as possible when we undertake this work, but as the need depends on changing weather conditions this is often only by a few days. Residents are encouraged to contact the station on 01797 343728 should they have any concerns.

We are currently looking at various alternative options to replenish the shingle bank and will keep residents and SSG members updated.

## Company news: Generation

### Graphite at Hunterston B

As reported at the last SSG meeting, an inspection programme at Hunterston B earlier in the year confirmed the expected presence of new keyway root cracks in the reactor core and also identified these happening at a slightly higher rate than modelled.

Work on the biggest graphite inspection programme we have carried out so far is now complete, meaning we have inspected around 25% of Hunterston B's Reactor 3. We are now analysing the findings which will be used to support the long-term safety case for the unit.



In relation to Reactor 4, we had the option to either extend our operating case or carry out inspections while we have the equipment and resources available post Reactor 3 inspections. We took the decision to carry out normal graphite core inspections commencing 2 October for 25 days on Reactor 4.

This decision gives us the opportunity to check our evaluations and predictions for Reactor 4 and yet again demonstrate that nuclear safety is the overriding priority in everything that we do.

We expect the unit to return to service before the end of 2018.

The issue of keyway root cracking is one we expect to affect all the AGR reactors at some point in their lives, but **no keyway root cracks have been identified** in either of the reactors at Dungeness B.

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## Company news: Nuclear New Build

### Hinkley Point C

The project is progressing well with more than 3,200 workers currently on site every day.



Work is advancing on reactor one with completion of its pre-stressing gallery: this structure sits below the reactor unit and will help to strengthen the main reactor building. The 'Deep dig' is now complete for Unit 1: this vast excavation is 21m below sea level and will contain the 54m tall water pumping station.

£10.6bn of contracts have been awarded with £1.3bn in the South-West and 64% of the project value is being built with UK firms.

The project is on track for its next major milestone in 2019 – the completion of the 4,500 tonne concrete platform on which the reactor buildings sit.

### Sizewell C

EDF Energy and CGN have continued to develop plans for Sizewell C and are looking to launch Stage 3 public consultation early next year.

### Bradwell B

Proposals to build Bradwell B in Essex are being led by CGN and supported by EDF Energy. The UK HPR1000 reactor design for Bradwell is currently going through a 'Generic Design Assessment' by the regulators, the ONR and Environment Agency.