



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

1 April – 30 June 2019

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 of the Hunterston Site Stakeholder Group and are also available on the ONR website (<http://www.onr.org.uk/lc/>).

Site inspectors from ONR usually attend Hunterston Site Stakeholder Group meetings and will respond to any questions when there. Otherwise, any person wishing to enquire about matters covered by this report should contact ONR (<http://www.onr.org.uk/feedback.htm>).

TABLE OF CONTENTS

1	INSPECTIONS	3
2	ROUTINE MATTERS.....	3
3	NON-ROUTINE MATTERS.....	4
4	REGULATORY ACTIVITY	4
5	NEWS FROM ONR.....	4
6	CONTACTS.....	5

1 INSPECTIONS

1.1 Dates of inspection

ONR attended Hunterston A (HNA) site on the following dates: -

- 13 - 16 May 2019
- 24 – 25 June 2019

Some of the inspections were carried out with inspectors from the Licensee's internal regulatory organisation and the Scottish Environmental Protection Agency (SEPA).

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 Health and Safety at Work Act 1974 (HSWA74);
- The Energy Act 2013; 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 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.

In this period, ONR carried out the following planned inspection at HNA:

System Based Inspection (SBI): -

SBIs are an essential element of ONR's overall intervention on a nuclear site and consist of a series of inspections that are intended to establish that the basic elements of a site/facility safety case as implemented in Safety Systems and Structures (SSS) are fit for purpose and that they will fulfil their safety functional requirements.

During an SBI, ONR Inspectors check the SSS against six licence condition arrangements typically LCs 10, 23, 24, 27, 28 & 34. The SBI is not a review of the Licensee's arrangements but an inspection of the adequacy of their implementation that will allow a judgement of whether the SSS will adequately meet the requirements of the safety case. The LCs inspected during this SBI were: -

- LC10 Training
- LC23 Operating Rules
- LC24 Operating Instructions
- LC27 Safety Mechanisms, Devices & Circuits
- LC28 Examination, Inspection, Maintenance & Testing
- LC34 Leakage & Escape of Radioactive Material and Radioactive Waste

I carried out this SBI on HNA's implementation of their LC10, 23, 24, 27, 28 and 34 arrangements for Solid Active Waste Bunker (SAWB) 1 breakthrough and Intermediate Level Waste (ILW) retrievals SSS during May and June 2019.

From the documentation sampled and the areas inspected in May and June 2019, I found that HNA's implementation of its LC 10, 23, 24, 27, 28, and 34 arrangements was adequate and that the SAW Bunker 1 retrievals SSS adequately fulfils the requirements of the safety case. For this SBI, ONR judged that no formal action was required by the site in regard to the arrangements implemented by the site in response to safety requirements.

Where other improvements were considered necessary, the licensee made satisfactory commitments to address the issues, and the 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.

3 NON-ROUTINE MATTERS

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

There were no significant safety matters reported by HNA during this period.

4 REGULATORY ACTIVITY

ONR may issue formal documents to ensure compliance with regulatory requirements. Under nuclear site Licence Conditions (LC - <http://www.onr.org.uk/documents/licence-condition-handbook.pdf>) 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' (LI), but can take other forms. In addition, inspectors may issue enforcement notices to secure improvements to safety.

No LIs or Enforcement Notices were issued to HNA within the reporting period.

Reports detailing regulatory decisions are available on the ONR website at <http://www.onr.org.uk/pars/>.

5 NEWS FROM ONR

5.1 Enforcement Action

A summary of enforcement action is provided below. Further detail is available on [our website](#).

- On 2 April Sellafeld Ltd were fined £380,000 following ONR's prosecution for safety breaches relating to equipment used for the processing of plutonium.
- ONR notified Devonport Royal Dockyard (DRDL) of its intention to prosecute following an incident involving a crane that occurred in September 2018. Proceedings are scheduled to commence at Plymouth Magistrates' Court on 23 July 2019.
- Improvement notice issued to Sellafeld Ltd in April 2019 following an incident in the waste vitrification plan in February 2019 where a container was not welded shut.

5.2 Regulatory Updates

- In April we announced the appointment of two NGOs to the Chief Nuclear Inspector's Independent Advisory Panel (IAP) to increase diversity of views and strengthen our openness and transparency. We introduced the Chief Nuclear Inspector's IAP in 2016 to provide us with independent advice on nuclear matters.

5.3 Stakeholder Engagement

- In May we published our strategic framework for international engagement, setting out the priority objectives and criteria for international engagement up to 2025. The framework is available on our [website](#).
- We launched two public consultations in April and June, both relating to the Euratom Basic Safety Standards Directive 2013. The first is a HSE consultation being managed by ONR on a new [Approved Code of Practice](#) that will assist dutyholder compliance with the new Radiation (Emergency Preparedness and Public Information) Regulations 2019 (REPPPIR). The consultation closed on 5 June but was extended for local authorities until 27 June as some of the consultation took place during the pre-election period for Local Government. A final version of the ACOP will be published in autumn 2019. The second is on [updated guidance](#) to support the amendments to the Carriage of Dangerous Goods and use of Transportable Pressure Equipment Regulations (CDG). This remains open until 19 July 2019. A final version of the guidance will be published in late summer 2019.
- On 15 and 16 May we hosted the 23rd meeting of the Heads of European Radiological protection Competent Authorities (HERCA) in Liverpool. The meeting brought together the heads of radiological protection competent authorities from 22 European countries and involved over 50 experts from across Europe. HERCA is a voluntary association where the members work together to identify common issues and propose practical solutions to ensure the highest levels of radiation protection in Europe.
- On 23 May our Chief Nuclear Inspector, Mark Foy led a [webinar](#), focusing on the work we do to regulate the industry in how it manages the risks arising from external hazards. Over 25 external stakeholders including NGOs joined the webinar.
- We held our annual [Industry Conference](#) on 5 June 2019 focusing on the theme of ‘Open for Innovation’. More than 100 senior representatives from industry, government, other regulators, academics and research bodies attended with speakers including Joanna Whittington, Director General, Energy and Security at BEIS and Rumina Velshi, President of the Canadian Nuclear Safety Commission.

5.4 Corporate News

- Mark McAllister joined ONR on 1 April, succeeding Nick Baldwin CBE as our new Chair. As Chair Mark will be responsible for ensuring that we deliver our mission to provide efficient and effective regulation of the nuclear industry on behalf of the public.
- In April, we published our [Corporate Plan for 2019/20](#), setting out our priorities and objectives for 2019/20. Maintaining the delivery of core regulatory functions and holding industry to account on behalf of the public remain at the heart of everything we do.
- We have been praised by the Nuclear Skills Strategy Group (NSSG), a government organisation, for ensuring we have the right capability and capacity to meet our regulatory demands. They removed the regulatory capacity risk placed on us in 2016 as recognition of our ongoing commitment to developing our staff and expanding our recruitment pipelines.
- We published our [Annual Report and Accounts](#) on 20 June highlighting our performance and key achievements in 2018/2019. We have continued to deliver our prime purpose of public safety, ensuring that dutyholders met the required standards of safety and security that society expects. We completed more than 750 inspections across 37 licensed sites, granting permission for 30 nuclear-related activities, serving nine improvement notices and instigating four prosecutions.

All our latest news is available on our website www.onr.org.uk.

6 CONTACTS

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