



# Office for Nuclear Regulation (ONR) Site Report for Hinkley Point B Power Station

Report for period 1 April to 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 to members for the Site Stakeholder Group and are also available on the ONR website (<http://www.onr.org.uk/llc/>).

Site inspectors from ONR usually attend Site Stakeholder Group meetings where these reports are presented and will respond to any questions raised there. Any person wishing to enquire about matters covered by this report should contact ONR.

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## 1 INSPECTIONS

### 1.1 Dates of inspection

1. The ONR site inspector made inspections on the following dates during the reporting period:
  - 15 – 18 April 2019
  - 1 May 2019
  - 3 – 6 June 2019
2. In addition, ONR specialist inspectors undertook inspections on the following dates during the quarter:
  - 3-5, 9-10 and 16-17 April (outage)
  - 4 – 5 June 2019 (Fire Protection Systems)

## 2 ROUTINE MATTERS

### 2.1 Inspections

3. 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 2017 (IRR17) and the Management of Health and Safety at Work Regulations 1999 (MHSWR99).
4. 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 conditions attached to the licence in order to ensure legal compliance. Inspections seek to judge both the adequacy of these arrangements and their implementation.
5. In this period, routine inspections of Hinkley Point B covered the following:

#### System Based Inspections (SBI)

6. In addition to our compliance inspections based on the conditions attached to the nuclear site licence, ONR inspectors also inspect operating reactors against safety related systems. Each site has a safety case that demonstrates how it operates safely. For advanced gas cooled reactors, each of approximately thirty key systems will be inspected against the claims made upon them by the safety case. The aim is to systematically inspect all the significant safety related systems within a five-year cycle. ONR believes that this will provide more robust assurances of the site's safe operation and how the safety case is being implemented. Each of these system based 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 (if applicable): Leakage and escape of radioactive material and radioactive waste

7. In this period one system based inspection (SBI) was carried out:

#### Fire Protection systems (SBI 11)

8. The aim of this inspection was to confirm that the Fire Protection systems, with their associated operating instructions and maintenance schedule, are able to meet the safety case functional requirements. The Inspection concluded that the parts of the Fire Protection Systems that were inspected met the requirements of the safety case and were adequately safe and LCs 10, 23, 24, 27 and 28 were rated as green. LC34 was not applicable to this inspection.

## **2.2 Other work**

9. During this reporting period reactor 3 continued undergoing its planned statutory maintenance outage. Several LC28 compliance inspections were undertaken by various ONR specialist inspectors (Civil Engineering, Structural Integrity, Graphite, Electrical, Control & Instrumentation, Mechanical, Conventional Health & Safety, Radiological, Fire and Internal Hazards). These inspections formed part of ONR's assessment relating to the issue of a licence instrument for consent under LC30(3) for return to service, which was issued in June 2019. The Project Assessment Report supporting this decision is available on the ONR website.

## **3 NON-ROUTINE MATTERS**

10. 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. Three non-routine matters arose in the period.

- An small carbon dioxide leak was identified on Reactor 3 during the statutory outage. This had no nuclear safety impact, however the site declared a 'site incident' in order to account for all personnel. ONR were informed of the declaration of a site incident in accordance with the site's emergency arrangements. ONR concluded that due to the nature of the incident a full stand up of the ONR emergency response was not required. Following the declaration the site inspector was briefed on the event and concluded that the use of the site's emergency arrangements was an effective measure in ensuring that all staff were accounted for.
- Reactor 3 was manually shut down twice following the outage: once to allow an oil leak to be repaired and once to allow a steam valve to be repaired. Neither of the faults had a direct impact on nuclear safety, but the station shut down the reactor to allow the repairs to be carried out. Some systems cannot be fully tested until the reactor is operational and the station has processes to ensure any return to service is carried out safely.

## **4 REGULATORY ACTIVITY**

11. 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 take a range of enforcement actions, to include issuing an Enforcement Notice. One licence instrument was issued during the period.

**Table 1**  
**Licence Instruments and Enforcement Notices Issued by ONR during this period**

Date	Type	Ref No	Description
June 2019	Consent	LI 559	Consent under LC30(3) to start-up Hinkley Point B Reactor 3 following periodic shutdown

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

## 5 NEWS FROM ONR

### 5.1 Enforcement Action

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

- On 2 April Sellafield 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. DRDL pleaded guilty to offences under Regulation 8 of the Lifting Operations and Lifting Equipment Regulations 1998 at Plymouth Magistrates’ Court on 23 July 2019.

### 5.2 Regulatory updates

13. 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

14. 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](#).

15. 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 (REPPiR). 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.

16. 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.
17. 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.
18. 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**

19. 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.
20. 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.
21. 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.
22. 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.

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