



# Office for Nuclear Regulation (ONR) Site Report for Harwell

Report for period 1 January – 31 March 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 for the Harwell Site Stakeholder Group and are also available on the ONR website (<http://www.onr.org.uk/llic/>).

Site inspectors from ONR usually attend the Harwell Site 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

During this quarter, inspections by the ONR site inspector were made on:

- 14 January 2019
- 12, 13 and 25 February 2019
- 20 March 2019

## 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 Energy Act 2013 (TEA13);
- 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).

The purpose of the inspections is to monitor 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 to ensure legal compliance. During inspections, the inspector seeks to judge the adequacy of these arrangements and their implementation.

The routine inspections of Harwell focused on the following aspects:

- LC7 Incidents on the site
- LC17 Management Systems
- LC 28 Examination, inspection, maintenance and testing

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

### 2.2 Other work

In March we agreed (see Section 4) to the commencement of active commissioning of the B462 Waste Encapsulation Plant (WEP). The ONR enabling regulation approach has worked well at WEP with the issue of the Licence Instrument some eight working days after the formal request. WEP has now entered its active commissioning stage, which is an important milestone for hazard and risk reduction on the site.

Magnox Ltd has indicated that their former tenant Mirion Technologies Ltd wish to consign nuclear matter to a non-relevant UK site. ONR is content the site receiving the consignment will not require a nuclear site licence and will consult with the Health & Safety Executive and Environment Agency before consideration of issuing our Consent.

The ONR project inspector for the Liquid Effluent Treatment Plant delicensing project continues to meet routinely with the project staff at Harwell, supported by ONR specialist inspectors.

### **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.

There were no such matters of significance to report during the period.

### **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.

- Licence Instrument No 506 an Agreement under the arrangements for LC21(1) to commence active commissioning of the B462 waste encapsulation plant.

No Enforcement Notices were issued during the period.

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

### **5 NEWS FROM ONR**

For the latest news and updates from ONR, please visit the ONR website and sign up for our newsletter (<http://www.onr.org.uk/ebulletin/index.htm>).

#### **Enforcement Action**

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

- Improvement notice issued to Sellafield Ltd on 4 January 2019 – requires improvements to be made in its principal contractor arrangements for construction, design and management.
- On 1 February, following ONR's prosecution, EDF Energy Nuclear Generation Ltd and Doosan Babcock Ltd were fined £200,000 and £150,000 respectively following an incident where a worker fell from height at Hinkley Point B power station in 2017.
- Two improvement notices issued to two transport logistics companies on 4 February following breaches in regulations for the safe transport of radioactive materials.

- Two improvement notices issued to EDF Energy on 20 February following an incident on 19 November 2018 at Heysham 1, which resulted in injury to three EDF Employees.

*\*Although outside the current reporting period, we can confirm that on 2 April 2019, Sellafield Ltd were fined £380,000 following ONR's prosecution for safety breaches relating to equipment used for the processing of plutonium.*

## Regulatory updates

Following the introduction of new integrated [Environmental Authorisations Regulations in Scotland](#), the [MOU between ONR and the Scottish Environmental Protection Agency](#) has been updated. The MOU ensures effective cooperation and collaboration in the regulation of nuclear safety, security, radioactive materials transport, nuclear safeguards and environmental protection on nuclear licensed sites and at other sites where both ONR and SEPA have regulatory functions.

In February, [a new nuclear site licence was granted to Tradebe Inutec](#) for their Winfrith site in Dorset. A new site licence was required following Tradebe Inutec's acquisition of buildings and land at the Winfrith site from the Nuclear Decommissioning Authority (NDA) in February 2019.

In March we published a report detailing safety "events" that took place in the UK between 2015 - 2017. The report details the 56 safety significant events that took place between April 2015 and December 2017 – describing each event, the duty-holder's response, and the actions taken by the ONR. The full report is available on our [website](#).

## Stakeholder Engagement

In February, our Chief Nuclear Inspector, Mark Foy and Technical Director, Anthony Hart hosted a webinar which focused on the first Topical Peer Review of 'Ageing management of nuclear power plants and research reactors.' Further details about the webinar are available on our [website](#).

We published our [2018 Stakeholder Survey report](#), in February following the survey in October/November last year. Stakeholders from across the sector were invited to take part in the survey with 329 responses received, providing valuable insight into how we are viewed by our stakeholders. The full report is available on our [website](#).

On 28 March, we held our NGO Forum in Manchester and were delighted to welcome 15 NGO representatives from 12 organisations. We'll be making the minutes, agenda, presentations and pre-event briefing papers available on our website over the coming weeks.

## Corporate news

In February we announced the appointment of Mark McAllister as the new Chair of ONR. Mark will join ONR from 1 April, succeeding Nick Baldwin CBE.

We were delighted that our Chief Executive was recognised as Transformational Leader at the Northern Power Women Awards 2019, an event that celebrates the women and men working towards accelerating gender diversity across the Northern Powerhouse. Adrienne won the award in recognition of her work in leading ONR through significant change while, in parallel, driving gender balance.

ONR has been recognised for its commitment to equality, diversity and inclusion by gaining accreditation to the National Equality Standards (NES).

We are embarking on the final year of our ONR Strategic Plan 2016-2020. So we are now starting to look ahead to what the next five years will bring and beginning to develop our new strategy for 2020-25. We're not doing this alone; we've already started talking to our staff and we are asking our stakeholders for their views to shape our plans. We are really keen to hear from SSG and LLC members and attendees to help us develop our strategic aims and objectives. We'd like to know:

- What is working well that we should keep doing and/or do more of?
- What do you think our top regulatory priorities should be in the 2020s?
- What do you think is missing from our current Strategic Plan that needs to feature in the next one?

We intend to consult on our draft strategy in the autumn, but in the meantime, if you'd like to share your comments and suggestions please email us at: [contact@onr.gov.uk](mailto:contact@onr.gov.uk) . We look forward to hearing from you.

All our latest news is available on our website [www.onr.org.uk](http://www.onr.org.uk)

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