



## **Site Stakeholder Group**

Hunterston B Station Director's Report

Period: May 2021 to July 2021

## 1. Defueling and decommissioning

In June, the UK government and EDF agreed improved arrangements to safely and efficiently decommission Britain's seven AGRs, which are due to reach the end of their operational lives this decade.

Under the new contract EDF will carry out the defueling of all of the AGRs, including Hunterston B. EDF will take an average of 3.5 years to remove all the nuclear fuel from the sites before the second phase of decommissioning begins. That phase will be carried out by Magnox, on behalf of the NDA.

EDF is committed to delivering value to the taxpayer via the Nuclear Liabilities Fund (NLF) and the revised arrangements provide the certainty needed to plan and deliver cost-effective defueling. The arrangements also provide EDF employees and supply chain partners important clarity over jobs for the coming years. EDF is looking forward to building on its collaborative partnership with the NDA to ensure successful defueling with Sellafield and a seamless transfer of the AGR stations to Magnox.

Work is ongoing to finalise the defueling safety case for Hunterston B so that the site is ready to start defueling early in 2022.

NDA, EDF and Magnox have been working together to consider the feasibility of sharing waste storage and processing facilities on the Hunterston A site. On the basis of this feasibility work the three organisations have agreed that the strategic planning assumption for the Hunterston B ILW waste should be that use of the Hunterston A ILW store will be possible and will be preferred. On this basis EDF has decided to suspend work on a standalone store. Magnox/NDA will further develop this option and, if it remains appropriate, formally confirm the change in their plans. This further development work will be completed by Magnox/NDA in line with their normal internal and regulatory processes. EDF will provide support as required.

The parties remain committed to finding the optimum technical and environmental solution for waste management at the Hunterston sites.

## 2. Safety and Environment

### Pandemic Response arrangements in response to COVID-19

EDF's sites have a five-stage tiered approach which is based on the Covid-19 infection rate on site and in the surrounding local area, with 1 being the lowest risk and 5 the highest. Each of the risk levels has a suite of actions that is in place to help protect the site.

The risk status of our site is monitored daily by the Outbreak Management Team (OMT), which includes our company doctors.

On Tuesday 10 August, following consultation with the Fleet Incident Management Team Hunterston B moved from Risk Rating 3 to Risk Rating 2.

A number of enhanced control measures remain on site including:

- An appropriate face covering must be worn in all internal areas, with the exception of:
  - those exempt for medical reasons
  - when at your work site where social distancing can be maintained
  - when seated at a table to eat or drink
- Additional criteria for self-isolation applies. In addition to the Government's self-isolation criteria, double-vaccinated workers returning to our Generation sites following a negative PCR

are given a further test 48-72 hours after return to site. A negative test result clears them for normal access on and around the site.

- Visitors to site and travel to other locations is restricted to business critical travel only.
- The requirement for 2m social distancing

The station is continuously reviewing these arrangements in the event escalation to Risk Rating 3 is required.

### **Station Industrial Safety Performance**

Safety performance during the reporting period has been good and our Total Recordable Incident Rate (TRIR) sits at 1.56.

During the reporting period there were three fire safety events. In May, there was a small fire in an emergency boiler feed pump which was automatically extinguished by protection systems. The second event involved sparks being observed during equipment testing. This was also safely dealt with by protection systems. In June, a short circuit in a fuse board in an admin building and was extinguished by on site teams. On each occasion, the Scottish Fire and Rescue service attended but did not have to take any action.

Team monthly safety meetings have included PPE and “Time Out for Personal Safety” or TOPS. This was following a fleet review to ensure continuous improvement while carrying out work tasks while on site.

Compliance evaluations are being carried out in line with the 2021 programme with Dangerous Substances and Explosive Atmospheres Regulations (DSEAR), Provision and Use of Work Equipment Regulations (PUWER) and workshop machine tools evaluations due to be completed in Q3.

We continue to make improvements across the station via the building and fabric group and lighting upgrades in the turbine hall. All working groups continue to deliver improvements to the station and present these at the ISAT monthly meeting.

### **Radiological Protection**

The radiation dose of each worker is assessed individually by an electronic personal dose meter. A computer database keeps records for each worker. Exposure is continuously monitored and ultimately compared with the levels specified in the Ionising Radiations Regulations (2017) which are the UK Health and Safety legislation that applies to work with radiation.

During the reporting period the Collective Radiation Exposure (CRE) was below plan (see table below). Collective doses are pre-planned for each year based on scheduled maintenance, outages and routine operations. A breakdown of dose received is shown below (along with a comparison of relevant dose statistics).

All work is fully reviewed and justified in order to ensure all doses received were ALARP (As Low As Reasonably Practicable). This involves justifying and optimising the dose, as well as remaining within those dose limits.

Differences between the actual and planned dose can be down to a range of factors including changes to the work programme, development of new techniques for carrying out work that will result in a lower dose and the deployment of new equipment. In this case, the reduced work programme resulted in the actual dose being lower than the predicted.

There were no reportable radiological protection events during this reporting period.

<b>Radiation Dose to workers (May 2021 - July 2021)</b>		
Planned collective dose	18.0man.mSv	
Actual collective dose	6.4man.mSv	
	<b>Employee</b>	<b>Contract Partner</b>
Total Dose	4.3man.mSv	2.1man.mSv
Average individual dose	0.01mSv	0.01mSv
Highest individual dose	0.12mSv	0.22mSv
Individuals	354	284

Chest X-ray	Transatlantic Flight	CT scan	Average UK annual dose to public	EDF Energy Dose Restriction Level	UK legal dose limit for radiation workers
0.014mSv	0.08mSv	2.0mSv	2.6mSv	10mSv	20mSv

#### Explanatory notes:

- mSv: milliSieverts (SI unit of dose received by an individual)
- man.mSv: The collective dose for a group of workers (i.e. the total of the doses received by each member of a group).

### **Environmental Safety**

There have been no significant environmental events in the period.

Radioactive gaseous and aqueous discharges arising from normal plant operations remain at levels well below those authorised by SEPA.

Work to process and package solid low level wastes has continued in the period as part of normal operations and consignments have been made to our regular partners.

The programme of off-site environmental monitoring and radiation surveys in the district has continued as normal. It demonstrates that the radiological discharges from the station have a negligible impact on the local environment. Reports are made quarterly to SEPA, detailing the samples and results of analysis performed.

### **Emergency Arrangements**

Due to Covid-19, the shift emergency training exercises for Q1/Q2 2021 were cancelled with the exercise season due to start again in Q3 & Q4 2021. This will comprise of five shift exercises between now and the end of the year.

The Level 1 Demonstration Exercise took place on Wednesday 19<sup>th</sup> May 2021. This was a counter-terrorism scenario involving a direct attack on Hunterston B by a number of adversaries who were trying to access site and make their way to the reactor building. All command centres and responders performed well, although one of the areas for improvement identified was the reception and briefing of the EOD upon arrival on site.

A review is underway of the Deployable Back-Up Equipment which would be used to support our sites in the event of a Beyond Design Basis Emergency, which is classed as a 1 in 10,000 year event.

Support for Hunterston B, in these unlikely circumstances, would currently come from EDF's national depot in Carlisle as well as a regional facility at Bellshill, which holds a smaller range of equipment.

The review is considering the demobilisation of the Bellshill depot. This change would bring response times for our Scottish sites into line with other stations in the fleet and remain well within the conservatively set timeframe agreed for support in our emergency plan.

This review is expected to be concluded in the coming months.

### **3. Generation**

Reactor 3/Turbine Generator 7 has operated continuously with one five-day reduction in power for refuelling.

Following a planned Graphite Inspection Outage, Reactor 4/Turbine Generator 8 was successfully returned to service on 5 June and operated continuously with one five-day reduction in power for refuelling.

Both reactors are in the last six-months of their generating lives.

### **4. People**

As the site approaches end of generation formal consultations are getting underway to help us move towards the station staffing structures for the defueling period which were previously shared with staff. In preparation for this, packs were sent to all affected staff in July containing individual redundancy and, where applicable, pension illustrations.

Collective and individual consultations get underway in August. Managers, leaders and trade unions reps have been given training to support the delivery of these consultations.

Station Director, Paul Forrest, and Plant Manager, Joe Struthers, have carried out Skype leaders' briefings each month to allow leaders to raise questions ahead of the consultations starting.

These consultations will follow the two rounds of aspirational conversations which have already taken place which were designed to help us understand whether our people wanted to stay at site, move elsewhere in the company, retire or leave the business.

### **5. Company Update**

#### **Heysham power stations welcome "Human Swan"**

The Round Britain Climate Challenge has made a pit stop at Heysham's power stations as part of the first ever attempt to circumnavigate the mainland of Britain using an electric paramotor.

As the UK's largest provider of zero carbon electricity, EDF is proud to be supporting the UN Ambassador Sacha Dench's expedition which is being carried out to draw attention to climate issues.

This ground-breaking journey of more than 3,000 miles will see Sacha travel anti-clockwise around Britain, starting and ending in Glasgow. It has been designed to inspire and excite the nation to get involved in tackling the climate crisis in the run up to COP26. Sacha will also be attempting two Guinness World Records – fastest and first flight around Britain in an electric paramotor, and getting more than 140,000 people to make a climate pledge via Count us In.

Martin Cheetham, Station Director at Heysham 1 power station, said: "Heysham's two power stations have been steadily producing zero carbon electricity since generation started in the 1980s, before climate change and net zero were a part of everyday conversation. So, I am delighted we were able to welcome Sacha and her team to site to talk to them about the contribution we are making."

While at Heysham, Sacha also spent time speaking to pupils at the nearby Trumacar school. Despite Sacha's paramotor undergoing some maintenance before the next leg of her epic journey, the children were thrilled to see Sacha demonstrate how the sail worked and even enlisted the help of some pupils on the playing field to unroll it across the grass before watching it take shape as it caught the breeze.

Headteacher Jon Stark, said: "It was a real thrill for the children to meet Sacha at such an early stage of her paramotor flight around the UK coastline. The answers she gave to their questions helped to cement their understanding of climate change but also, more importantly, made them realise the difference they can make as individuals to help solve this global issue that we all face."

Mark Lees, Station Director at Heysham 2 said: "The children had all worked so hard on climate change posters in advance of Sacha's visit, and enjoyed an insightful question and answer session towards the end. I'm sure that everyone at the school will join our teams here at Heysham's power stations in wishing her the best of luck during the rest of her amazing journey."

'Human Swan' Sacha Dench, who is known for global expeditions with migratory species, turned her focus to climate change for this expedition after losing her family home in the Australian bushfires.

Sacha took off from Stevenston Beach in Ayrshire on 26 June, heading south. She is visiting a number of EDF sites on her journey to find out how it is helping Britain achieve Net Zero.

Sacha said: "This is the first time an electric paramotor will ever have been used in a long journey. It is already proving to be an exciting challenge and I'm enjoying meeting people, like those at Heysham's power stations, hearing their stories and talking to them about climate change solutions.

"It is beautiful up there. You get incredible views and I'm really getting to see how the landscape and its features, including coastal landmarks like windfarms, power stations, rivers, farmland and wilderness all fit together.

### **EDF and Zenobe announce agreement to optimise one of Europe's largest batteries**

Zenobe, the UK's leading independent owner and operator of battery storage, has selected EDF as the company's trading and optimisation partner for a new 100MW battery. The battery will be located at Capenhurst, near Chester, and will be the largest transmission-connected battery storage project in Europe. The announcement of this partnership follows several months of cooperation between the two teams working on the project.

Zenobe and EDF are among the main players in this sector; Zenobe currently has 175MW of operational grid-scale battery capacity and is on track to have 1GW of battery storage by 2026; EDF has now contracted 490MW battery storage under optimisation.

The long-term agreement will see EDF optimise the battery through its market leading trading platform. It will mean EDF opening access to a variety of revenue streams for this asset, including

ancillary services such as Dynamic Containment, balancing mechanism and wholesale optimisation, leveraging EDF's industry-leading trading expertise. EDF will also provide a floor price ensuring minimum income levels are protected.

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