

Site Stakeholder Group

Hunterston B Station Director's Report

Period: February 2022 to April 2022

1. Defueling and decommissioning

Hunterston B has reached another significant milestone as operators started the job of removing spent nuclear fuel from the reactors.

Since the station stopped generating zero-carbon electricity in January the workforce has been carrying out a statutory outage to ensure the site is ready for the next stage in the nuclear lifecycle, defueling. As part of the Reactor 3 outage two plant modifications were completed; the permanent isolation of the control rods and the isolation and drain down of the pressure vessel cooling water system.

The Fuel Handling and Reactor Defueling safety cases have been approved by ONR and a Licence Instrument allowing work to progress was delivered to the station in March. The station successfully completed the first channel of Reactor 3 defueling on 16th May. The focus is now on progressing the defueling campaign on Reactor 3 in a safe, reliable and efficient manner.

In parallel with defueling on Reactor 3, the pre-defueling outage on Reactor 4 is progressing in line with station plans.

A programme of improvement works has also been completed on plan in the Flask Corridor to support increased traffic during the defueling period. This is an area within the station through which the flasks are processed as they make their way off site. The delivery of these improvements will directly support the removal of fuel from site in a safe, reliable and efficient manner.

Plans are also being developed for a public consultation on the decommissioning of the site. In order for Hunterston B power station to be decommissioned the ONR has to grant consent under the Nuclear Reactors (Environmental Impact Assessment for Decommissioning) Regulations 1999 (EIADR).

As the site licensee, EDF will submit an application which will include an Environmental Impact Assessment of the programme of works that will be delivered following the defueling of the power station.

EDF is planning to submit an EIADR Scoping Report to the ONR in July 2022 to confirm the scope of this assessment, followed by the EIADR application in Q3 2023.

EDF plans to hold two rounds of pre-application consultation which will give interested parties the chance to have their say. The first round of consultation will focus on the overall decommissioning strategy, and is due to take place between August and Sept. We will engage with the SSG and the wider community more closely as arrangements are finalised.

2. Safety and Environment

Pandemic Response arrangements in response to COVID-19

EDF's sites have a six-stage tiered approach which is based on the Covid-19 infection rate on site and in the surrounding local area, with 0 being the lowest risk and 5 the highest. Each of the risk levels has a suite of actions 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 19 April, following consultation with the Fleet Incident Management Team, Hunterston B moved from Risk Rating 1 to Risk Rating 0.

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 0.

In early February we welcomed the ONR to site and discussed topics including asbestos and the end of generation. The ONR inspectors were complimentary of how well we have managed these topics and gave us a green rating.

We also hosted a fleet Governance Oversight Support Performance (GOSP) visit which involves an audit of our main contract partners. In February, it was the turn of Altrad to be audited over two days, there was good engagement from the Altrad management team and some minor improvements have been agreed for tracking.

In Q1 our Industrial Safety team have been busy completing a compliance evaluation on Confined Spaces, this was carried out during the R3 Pre-defueling Outage. No gaps were found.

Our building and fabric groups continue to meet on a fortnightly basis to ensure that improvements to buildings are being carried out in a timely manner.

Team monthly safety meetings are remaining popular and effective among the various teams & contract partners on the station, this gives the teams an opportunity to discuss a wide range of safety topics such as asbestos, working at height and fire safety which relates to the work currently being carried out on site.

Our safety team continue to have a regular presence on site carrying out active monitoring to ensure all policies and procedures are being followed as part of the Pre-defueling Outage for R3 & R4. There is also an opportunity for the management team to join in these walks to engage with contract partners and EDF staff while carrying out jobs at the work site.

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.

Radiation Dose to workers (February 2022 - April 2022)		
Planned collective dose	9.5man.mSv	
Actual collective dose	7.3man.mSv	
	Employee	Contract Partner
Total Dose	4.80man.mSv	2.50man.mSv
Average individual dose	0.01mSv	0.01mSv
Highest individual dose	0.44mSv	0.72mSv
Individuals	351	324

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 February 2021 to April 2022.

As discussed at the last SSG meeting, low-level radiologically contaminated oil migrated from one of the circulator hall oil storage tank pipes to the outfall lagoon via the surface drains. The interceptor plant at the outfall lagoon has successfully captured the oil that was lost from the system. All waste collected has been disposed of via the authorised routes. Monitoring of the lagoon has been carried out and no oil has migrated to the sea or shoreline.

We are working to put in place a repair plan for a slow, low-level leak of oil from a transformer cable. The oil, which is used for insulation in the cable, is light, clear and fully biodegradable. The cable must be taken out of service to allow the identification of the leak site and a repair; a plan is expected to be in place to support this by the end of May. SEPA have been kept fully informed and have been very supportive.

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

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

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.

Emergency Arrangements

There have been no issues with the emergency arrangements during this reporting period. Hunterston B continues to work closely with fleet as we move from generation to defueling arrangements. As a group, we have been working on scenarios and fault events that will exercise our Emergency Arrangements.

In February 2022, we completed the 2021 rescheduled shift exercise (which was unable to be completed at the time due to a change in site Covid risk rating) as a desktop exercise which consisted of a number of drills.

During Q2 2022 we will be demonstrating our arrangements with oversight from the ONR on areas of site security and fault scenarios, these are scheduled 25th May and 15th of June respectively. In preparation for this, we have started the next shift exercise season and completed two exercises during April and May.

End of generation at Hunterston B marks a fundamental change in its status requiring hazard evaluations be conducted as part of EDF's duty under REPPiR legislation. These have been reviewed and are due to be issued to the ONR. Following this, in line with REPPiR, a Consequence Report will be sent to North Ayrshire Council, setting out recommendations for the revised off-site requirements for emergency planning. We are engaged with the local authority to support their decision making on any changes.

3. People

In April the station hosted a successful "Lead and Learn Open Day" attended by HR and Defueling Preparation Managers from every station along with representation from the Nuclear Decommissioning Defueling Team.

The purpose of the Open Day was to provide a forum for the Defueling Preparation and HR Managers across the fleet to engage with the Hunterston B team, identify key Operational Experience (OPEX) and to gain insights that would help the rest of the stations in their journey to defueling. Whilst Lead and Learn OPEX has been shared in documents and briefs, the Open Day presented a fantastic opportunity to gain a common understanding and alignment across the fleet on defueling preparations, as well as uncovering the valuable learning insights that can only come from face-to-face engagement and discussion.

There was also a session led by Linda McLucas (Head of HR, Decommissioning) and Kathleen Wylie (HR Manager for Hunterston B) and focussed on the People Programme and identified key insights for other stations.

The day was a great success with each Station Team acknowledging the benefits they received from the face-to-face engagement and the insights given by the Hunterston B team.

There have been some Management Team changes to support Hunterston B's new dual mission of 'Defueling' and 'Transfer and Deconstruction Preparations'.

Andy Dalling will move from Engineering & PI Manager to the role of Transfer & Deconstruction Preparations Manager and Project Portfolio Manager (PPM), Graeme Campbell, has been appointed into the Projects Control Manager position.

Andy's current role (Engineering & PI Manager) has been advertised and once concluded handover plans will be completed between Andy and the successful candidate. The PPM position will not be backfilled and this decision is covered within a live Management of Change (MOC) paper. The current Investment Delivery organisation will sit within Andy's new structure.

4. Company Update

Exploratory work under way for potential new Scottish Borders wind farm

Work is under way to explore the potential to create a new wind farm on moorland in the Lammermuir Hills in Berwickshire. Surveys and assessments, to be undertaken during 2022, will examine the potential to develop a wind farm capable of generating up to 100 megawatts (MW) of green energy, creating significant investment in community projects across the local area.



A scoping process, to determine the content of an environmental impact assessment (EIA) in support of any future planning application, has been launched by EDF Renewables UK, for the potential scheme sited on land owned by Roxburghe Estates.

The proposed site of Dunside wind farm is on moorland approximately 1 km east of the existing Fallago Rig wind farm, enabling use of the existing access infrastructure and

grid connection. Up to 20 turbines, each with a tip height of up to 260 metres, will be considered for scoping the EIA but the final design will take account of feedback from local people and others and the environmental information gathered for the EIA.

Should the wind farm proceed, it would make an important contribution to helping Scotland achieve its 2045 net zero target and, at the same time, support the Scottish economy by increasing Scotland's supply of green energy. The wind farm could generate enough low carbon electricity to power around 60,000 homes*. Based on the Scottish Government guidelines, EDF Renewables UK would generate an annual fund of £5,000 per MW for investment in community projects for the Scottish Borders.

EDF Renewables UK will soon embark on an extensive consultation exercise with local communities. Subject to meeting relevant COVID 19 restrictions that may prevail, the Dunside Wind Farm project team hopes to stage a number of face-to-face events at local venues later this month in order to outline the plans and listen to the views of local people.

Sarah Dooley, Principal Project Development Manager at EDF Renewables UK, said:
"Dunside wind farm has the potential to make a lasting and valuable contribution to the Scottish Borders, generating clean, green energy; empowering local communities; and supporting Scotland's net zero carbon targets. We look forward to sharing our plans with local communities at our consultation events later this month."

Hinkley Point C's community funding tops £13 million

The project to build a new nuclear power station in Somerset has now awarded more than £13 million to community initiatives in the South-West.

The cash has come from Hinkley Point C's Community Funds, which have provided vital support to local charities, voluntary organisations, local authorities, and other groups across the region.



£20 million will be awarded to groups during the project's construction phase, with four different types of grants currently open to applicants. Andrew Cockcroft, Senior Community Relations Manager at Hinkley Point C said: "Our community funding is changing lives for the better now and for many years to come. I'm proud we've reached this milestone and I look forward to continuing our work in ensuring local people benefit from Hinkley

Point C."

Cheddar Parish Council this weekend (8th May) unveiled its new Community Pavilion – which has been renovated and extended, after being awarded £320,000 from the funding made available for community projects. The building, which previously featured changing rooms and a kitchenette, now includes a bar area, kitchen, and spacious meeting hall. It will be used by local sports clubs and will be available to hire.

EDF doubles financial support for customers to £10 million as affordability crisis bites

- Customer calls about debt increased by 41% year-on-year over winter
- EDF to increase its customer support fund to help customers in debt and with more energy efficient white goods
- EDF will spend an extra £20million on energy efficiency measures for fuel poor households this year

Ahead of the April price cap increase, the number of customers calling EDF about debt increased by 41% over winter compared with the year before.

All suppliers have a duty to support the welfare of customers and last year EDF provided £5.2million in financial support to its customers made up of obligated support through the Warm Home Discount and voluntary help provided mainly through its customer support fund. However, the significant increases in global energy costs over the past year and ongoing volatility in the market is having an extreme impact on households, who are facing a broad cost of living crisis.

EDF analysis shows that a year ago, the 10% lowest-earning households in the UK spent £1 in every £12 of their budget on energy. This increased to £1 in every £8 from April and could rise to £1 in every £6 from October.

To help its customers, EDF is today announcing it will set aside an additional £5million on top of the £1.4million it had already allocated this year to its Customer Support Fund in 2022. It means that in addition to £4million of Warm Home Discount, EDF will set aside a further £6.4m to support customers in need.

The £6.4million will be used to help customers in debt or facing financial difficulties, as well as support buying energy efficient white goods to help people reduce their bills long-term.

In addition, EDF will bring forward £20million spend on energy efficiency measures for fuel poor households this year to get as many homes as possible insulated against rising prices. EDF are the market leaders in ECO, with over 40,000 measures installed last year and since 2018, its installs have delivered more than £248million in lifetime bill savings.

In 2022, EDF will be upping the funding it provides to the Energy Company Obligation scheme (ECO) to more than £100million. To support this investment, EDF is asking Government to prioritise legislation of the new ECO4 scheme during this parliamentary session to avoid any further delays to this vital scheme.

With less than six months until Ofgem's next price cap, EDF is calling for a national effort to make as many homes in Britain 'Winter Ready' as possible before prices go up again in October.

For more information about anything in this report or other station issues, contact:

Fiona McCall, Senior External Affairs Manager

Tel: 01355 846281

E-mail: fiona.mccall@edf-energy.com

Nikki Thomson, Communications Coordinator

Tel: 01294 826157

E-mail: nikki.thomson@edf-energy.com