

# VULCAN NAVAL REACTOR TEST ESTABLISHMENT

## DNSR QUARTERLY REPORT

01 July to 30 September 2009

### FOREWORD

This report is issued as part of the Defence Nuclear Safety Regulator's commitment to make information about inspection and regulatory activities relating to defence nuclear programmes available to the workforce and the public. The Secretary of State for Defence is answerable to Parliament for the safety of all defence activities; he has issued a Policy Statement requiring the Ministry of Defence to comply with legislation, and where there are exemptions relating to defence activities, to make, so far as is practicable, arrangements at least as good as those required by legislation. The Defence Nuclear Safety Regulator is empowered to regulate nuclear and radiological safety in the naval nuclear propulsion programme and the nuclear weapons programme. This is achieved in a manner that complements and joins up with the work of statutory regulators.

Vulcan NRTE is an authorised site under MoD regulation; authorisation is a process akin to licensing under the Nuclear Installations Act. Statutory regulators have roles under general health, safety and environmental legislation, and DNSR Inspectors work closely with them; this report should be read in conjunction with theirs. The report is made available on the MoD website ([www.mod.uk](http://www.mod.uk)) and the MoD intranet and is provided to members of the Local Liaison Committee. Where possible, a DNSR Inspector will attend Liaison Committee meetings and will respond to any questions raised. Additionally, DNSR Inspectors may be contacted at their offices at Abbey Wood, Bristol (0117 91 35026).

### PERIOD OF THIS REPORT

1. This report covers the quarterly reporting period from 01 Jul to 30 Sep 09.

### ROUTINE MATTERS

2. Routine visits to the site are made for the purpose of undertaking pre-planned examinations of the adequacy of safety management, examinations of Authorisation Condition compliance or compliance with other regulations or attending formal meetings with site management or their representatives.
3. Routine visits were made to Vulcan NRTE by DNSR on the following days:
  - a. 14, 15 and 16 Jul 09.
  - b. 22, 23 and 24 Sep 09.
4. The following areas were inspected during this period:
  - a. Hold Point Control, Marking of the Site Boundary, Warning Notices and Instructions to Persons on the Site. The primary purpose of the visit was to inspect the arrangements associated with Hold Point Control. In addition, the arrangements for Marking of the Site Boundary, Warning Notices and Instructions to Persons on the Site were examined. DNSR is encouraged by the arrangements that are in place for the Hold Point Control process. For

the other topics inspected, DNSR has no concerns and is satisfied that the arrangements in place are appropriate and effective.

b. Modification or Experiment on Existing Plant. The primary purpose of the visit was to inspect the arrangements associated with modifications or trials on the Nuclear Steam Raising Plant (NSRP). In summary, DNSR has no concerns with the management of modifications and noted that more than adequate arrangements are in place for the conduct of trials on the NSRP. No findings or observations were raised during the inspection.

### **NON-ROUTINE MATTERS**

5. Non-routine matters may be incidents or situations revealed during routine inspections or visits; they may require special action by DNSR. There have been no non-routine matters during this reporting period.

### ***Signed On Original***

DNSR IOR-a  
12 Oct 09

Distribution:

NSV, Vulcan NRTE\*  
NSVPA, Vulcan NRTE (fao Dounreay Stakeholder Group)\*  
NII Site Inspector\*  
SEPA\*  
RSD\*