



HM NUCLEAR INSTALLATIONS INSPECTORATE

Dounreay Site Restoration Limited

Quarterly report for 1 January to 31 March 2010

Foreword

This report is issued as part of the Health and Safety Executive's commitment to make information about inspection and regulatory activities relating to the above site available to the public. It is for distribution to members of the Dounreay Site Stakeholder Group (DSSG) and covers activities associated with the regulation of safety at Dounreay. These reports are distributed quarterly. Site Inspectors of HM Nuclear Installations Inspectorate normally attend Dounreay SSG meetings and will be happy to respond to questions raised there or subsequently by members of the Dounreay SSG. Any other person wishing to inquire about matters covered by this report should contact the HSE, Nuclear Directorate Information Centre on 0151 951 3484/3290.

This report will be put on the HSE Website at
<http://www.hse.gov.uk/nuclear/llc/2010/index.htm>

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Inspections

NII Site Inspectors and Specialist Inspectors visited Dounreay on the following dates:-

- 11th – 15th January
- 18th – 22nd January
- 25th – 28th January
- 1st - 4th February
- 22nd - 25th February
- 10th – 11th March
- 22nd – 25th March

Routine matters

Site inspection activities

Compliance inspections were undertaken against the following Licence Conditions

- 4 Restrictions on nuclear matter on the site
- 11 Emergency arrangements
- 14 Safety documentation
- 22 Modification or experiment on existing plant
- 23 Operating rules
- 28 Examination, inspection, maintenance and testing
- 32 Accumulation of radioactive waste
- 36 Control of organisational change

No major issues were identified.

appeared to be proportionate to the reducing hazards in PFR and in keeping with the site's mission. However our inspection raised a number of points which need to be resolved to NII's satisfaction before the proposal is implemented. The licensee agreed to provide a response to these points by the end of March 2010, and on this basis NII decided not to formally examine this proposal. A follow up visit confirmed that the licensee is making good progress with the necessary modifications.

Radioactive Waste Management Cases

DSRL, SEPA and NII held a joint workshop to discuss the production, content, maintenance and review of radioactive waste management cases. These cases are designed to provide a transparent demonstration of adequate radioactive waste management for higher activity waste on site.

Dounreay Parent Body Organisation competition industry events

NII inspectors attended the Nuclear Decommissioning Authority industry events held in Wick and Glasgow. NII gave a presentation at the Glasgow event. No nuclear safety regulatory issues were raised during these events.

New funding spending cap

DSRL has been informed by the Nuclear Decommissioning Authority that there will be a spending cap on decommissioning activity of up to 150 million pounds in each of the forthcoming years. This will affect decommissioning plans at Dounreay. NII reminded DSRL that DSRL must follow its due process when considering changes to the lifetime plan. This will affect regulatory milestones, which will need to be revised because of the new spending profile. Any revisions must also follow DSRL due process. NII will take an active interest in these processes.

Regulatory activity

NII has powers under the Licence to issue Consents, Approvals and Directions. In addition, NII uses Licence Instruments to issue Specifications, Acknowledgements, and Agreements under either the conditions attached to the Licence, or arrangements made by DSRL for complying with those conditions.

During the period of this report no Licence Instruments were issued.

Formation of the Office for Nuclear Regulation – An Update

Given the proximity to a general election, Ministers decided not to lay the Legislation (known as The LRO) required to establish the Office for Nuclear Regulation, in this Parliamentary session. This decision was made to ensure that full and effective parliamentary scrutiny can take place.

Government recently published for information the legislative documents and the results of the consultation undertaken by the Department for Work and Pensions and the Department of Energy and Climate Change in Summer 2009. The consultation showed broad support from a wide range of organisations. The documents can be accessed at:

http://www.decc.gov.uk/en/content/cms/what_we_do/uk_supply/energy_mix/nuclear/new/reg_reform/reg_reform.aspx

http://www.decc.gov.uk/en/content/cms/news/pn10_048/pn10_048.aspx

The Transition Programme (the work to establish the new organisation) is largely complete and will be placed 'on hold' until the point at which the LRO is approved.

The planning assumption for vesting date of the new organisation is now taken as 1 April 2011 subject to the LRO passing through the parliamentary process. The next steps and revised timetable relating to the LRO will in due course be further developed. In the meantime, the work to transform ND into the world leading nuclear regulator fit for future challenges, that we aspire to be, continues with the same drive and determination.