

**VULCAN NAVAL REACTOR TEST ESTABLISHMENT****DNSR QUARTERLY REPORT****01 January to 31 March 2010****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 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 (030679 37564).

**PERIOD OF THIS REPORT**

1. This report covers the quarterly reporting period from 01 Jan to 31 Mar 10.

**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 dates:
  - a. 26 – 28 Jan 10.
  - b. 09 – 11 Mar 10.
4. The following areas were inspected during these visits:
  - a. **Duty of Co-operation (26-28 Jan 10).** The primary purpose of the visit was to inspect the arrangements under Further Authorisation Condition (FAC) 1 associated with Duty of Co-operation. No findings or observations were raised during this inspection. Overall the inspection team were content that adequate arrangements are in place to demonstrate compliance with FAC1.

b. **Ionising Radiation Regulations 1999 (IRR99) (9-11 Mar 10).** This was a joint inspection with NII. At the time of writing, the final Inspection Report was not completed. However, the inspection team were satisfied that the site was compliant with IRR99. There were no Findings raised as a result of this inspection, although a number of Observations were made. A more detailed comment will be made at the next Quarterly Report should this be warranted by the Inspection Report.

#### **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. STF has remained shut down during the period of this report due to ongoing maintenance and repair activities.

#### ***Distributed by e-mail***

DNSR IOR-a  
21 Apr 10

Distribution:

NSV, Vulcan NRTE\*  
NSVPA, Vulcan NRTE (fao Dounreay Stakeholder Group)\*  
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