

VULCAN NAVAL REACTOR TEST ESTABLISHMENT**DNSR QUARTERLY REPORT****01 July to 30 September 2011****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 Jul to 30 Sep 11.

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. 9-11 Aug 11.
 - b. 5-9 Sep 11.
 - c. 13-16 Sep 11.
4. The following areas were inspected during these visits:
 - a. **Periodic Review of Safety, Site Restrictions and Incident Reporting (9-11 Aug 11).** The inspection team conducted a review of Authorisation Conditions 3, 7 & 15 iaw JSP 518. DNSR have been impressed with Vulcan's conduct of the 10-annual PRS and progress with the actions arising from it.

b. **Regulatory Assurance Visit (5-9 Sep 11).** The site inspector attended a number of regular site meetings, conducted safety walk rounds and followed day-to-day business on site. This week provided assurance that the site operates within its approved processes.

c. **Construction, Installation, Modification and Commissioning of New Plant (13-16 Sep 11).** The process for Construction, Installation, Modification and Commissioning New Plant was reviewed iaw JSP 518 Authorisation Conditions 19 – 21 inclusive. The inspection team were pleased with the results of this inspection. DNSR IOR-a also attended the Vulcan Site safety Committee and participated in a Level 3 RIF.

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. No non-routine matters arose during this period.

Distributed by e-mail

DNSR IOR-a
12 Oct 11

Distribution:

NSV, Vulcan NRTE*
Dounreay Stakeholder Group*
ONR Site Inspector*
NRPA (BAM-N1)*
SEPA*
RSD*