

VULCAN NAVAL REACTOR TEST ESTABLISHMENT**DNSR QUARTERLY REPORT****1 January to 31 March 2013****FOREWORD**

This report is issued as part of the Defence Nuclear Safety Regulator's (DNSR's) commitment to make information about inspection and regulatory activities relating to the Defence Nuclear Programme¹ 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 Health, Safety and Environmental Protection Policy Statement requiring the Ministry of Defence (MoD) 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. DNSR is empowered to regulate nuclear and radiological safety in the Defence Nuclear Programme. This is achieved in a manner that complements and joins up with the work of statutory regulators².

Vulcan Naval Reactor Test Establishment (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 Dounreay Stakeholder Group. Where possible, a DNSR Inspector will attend Stakeholder Group meetings and will respond to any questions raised. Additionally, DNSR Inspectors may be contacted at their offices at Abbey Wood, Bristol.

PERIOD OF THIS REPORT

1. This report covers the quarterly reporting period from 1 January to 31 March 2013.

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 (AC) compliance or compliance with other regulations or attending formal meetings with site management or their representatives.
3. During this period, two Routine visits were made to Vulcan NRTE by DNSR:
 - a. **6 February 2013.** The Head of DNSR visited Vulcan NRTE to conduct the Annual Review of Safety and discuss forthcoming programme issues. He was accompanied by Director of the Office for Nuclear Regulation's (ONR) Defence Programme.
 - b. **12 - 14 March 2013.** To inspect compliance with AC 18 (Radiological Protection) and the Ionising Radiation Regulations 1999. This inspection was led by an ONR expert in radiological protection. The arrangements were found to be adequate with examples of good practice, particularly in radiological risk assessment and reduction.

¹ Comprising the Naval Nuclear Propulsion Programme (NNPP) and the Nuclear Weapon Programme (NWP).

² The Office for Nuclear Regulation (ONR), the Environment Agency (EA) and the Scottish Environment Protection Agency (SEPA).

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. Nil non-routine matters arose during this period.

< Signed on Original >

I Miller
Lt Cdr
DNSR IOR-a
26 April 2013

Distribution:

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