

**VULCAN NAVAL REACTOR TEST ESTABLISHMENT****DNSR QUARTERLY REPORT****1 April to 30 June 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 Programme<sup>1</sup> 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 regulators<sup>2</sup>.

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 April to 30 June 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. **14 - 15 May 2013.** To inspect compliance with AC 24 (Operating Instructions), AC 25 (Operational Records) and AC 26 (Control and Supervision of Operations). The arrangements were found to be adequate; the drafting of written instructions was a particular example of good practice.
  - b. **19 June 2013.** Exercise Lonestar 13 was a Level 2 emergency arrangements exercise and included the response by the Local Authority and other civil responders. Vulcan NRTE, and its supporting organisations, demonstrated a strong ability to deal with a nuclear emergency.

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<sup>1</sup> Comprising the Naval Nuclear Propulsion Programme (NNPP) and the Nuclear Weapon Programme (NWP).

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

**PERMISSION AND ENFORCEMENT ACTIVITY**

4. DNSR has not granted permission for any new activities during this quarter. DNSR has not placed any regulatory enforcement actions on NSV in this quarter.

**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.

*< Signed on Original >*

I Miller  
Lt Cdr  
DNSR IOR-a  
22 July 2013

Distribution:

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