

# VULCAN NAVAL REACTOR TEST ESTABLISHMENT

## DNSR QUARTERLY REPORT

1 Apr 2017 to 30 Jun 2017

### 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 Apr 2017 to 30 Jun 2017.

### 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, five routine visits was made to Vulcan NRTE by DNSR:

- a. **25 April 17:** Observation of Defuel preparedness.
- b. **10 May 17:** Management Systems Compliance Inspection of Defuel Technical and Safety Governance process.
- c. **13 - 14 June 17:** Operational Readiness Inspection of Defuel arrangement to inform the decision to permit the Regulatory Hold Point. Site Level 3 Regulatory Interface Fora meeting.

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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).

- d. **15 June 17:** Site Emergency Planning Meeting.

#### **PERMISSION AND ENFORCEMENT ACTIVITY**

4. DNSR permitted commencement of Defuel in the Shore Test Facility and Agreement of the Defuel Safety Case. DNSR has not placed any regulatory enforcement actions on the Naval Superintendent in this quarter.

#### **NON-ROUTINE MATTERS**

5. No Non-Routine matters were raised during this period.

*< Signed on Original >*

DNSR IFR-b  
17 July 2017

Distribution: (Indicates\* by e-mail)

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

Internal:  
DNS NPR\*  
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