



Office for Nuclear Regulation (ONR) Site Report for Vulcan Naval Reactor Test Establishment

Report for period 1 July 2019 – 31 December 2019

Foreword

This report is issued as part of ONR's commitment to make information about inspection and regulatory activities relating to the above site available to the public. Reports are distributed to members for the Dounreay Site Stakeholder Group and are also available on the ONR website (<http://www.onr.org.uk/lrc/>).

Site inspectors from ONR usually attend Dounreay Stakeholder Group meetings where these reports are presented and will respond to any questions raised there. Any person wishing to inquire about matters covered by this report should contact ONR.

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1 INSPECTIONS

The majority of sites inspected by ONR are licensed under the Nuclear Installations Act 1965. Vulcan NTRE is not a licensed site, although it operates under Authorisation from the Ministry of Defence (MOD) Defence Nuclear Safety Regulator (DNSR). The site is adjacent to the Dounreay licensed site and is regulated by ONR through other legislation as noted below. This report summarises the inspection and regulatory activities associated with Vulcan NRTE, which are co-ordinated with inspections by DNSR.

1.1 Dates of inspection

During this period no on-site inspections were undertaken by ONR.

2 ROUTINE MATTERS

2.1 Inspections

Inspections are undertaken as part of the process for monitoring compliance with:

- the Health and Safety at Work Act 1974 (HSWA74); and
- regulations made under HSWA74, for example the Ionising Radiations Regulations 2017 (IRR17) and the Management of Health and Safety at Work Regulations 1999 (MHSWR99).

No on-site inspections were undertaken this period.

2.2 Other work

No other work was undertaken during this period.

3 NON-ROUTINE MATTERS

Licensees are required to have arrangements to respond to non-routine matters and events. ONR inspectors judge the adequacy of the licensee's response, including actions taken to implement any necessary improvements.

There were no such matters or events of significance during the period.

4 REGULATORY ACTIVITY

ONR may issue formal documents to ensure compliance with regulatory requirements. Under nuclear site licence conditions, ONR issues regulatory documents, which either permit an activity or require some form of action to be taken; these are usually collectively termed 'Licence Instruments' (LIs), but can take other forms. In addition, inspectors may take a range of enforcement actions, to include issuing an Enforcement Notice.

No such documents were issued during the period.

Table 1
Licence Instruments and Enforcement Notices Issued by ONR during this period

Date	Type	Ref No	Description
N/A			

Reports detailing the above regulatory decisions can be found on the ONR website at <http://www.onr.org.uk/pars/>.

5 NEWS FROM ONR

5.1 Enforcement Action

EDF Energy has complied [with two ONR Improvement Notices](#) relating to the way it maintains auxiliary steam systems and instructs staff operating these systems. The Notices were issued in January 2019 following a serious incident at Heysham 1 power station in November 2018, when a valve failed on a steam system resulting in injury to three EDF employees. Further detail is available on [our website](#).

5.2 Regulatory updates

- In October, our Chief Nuclear Inspector Mark Foy published his view on the performance of Great Britain's nuclear industry during 2018/19. In the first [report](#) of its kind, the review provides an independent, authoritative view of safety, security and safeguards performance across the nuclear industry over the last year. The report is accessible via our website homepage www.onr.org.uk
- Throughout October we hosted an [Integrated Regulatory Review Service Mission](#) that saw a team of 18 independent experts from across the globe scrutinising the regulation of nuclear and radiological safety across 15 different regulatory bodies. The final report is expected in February/March 2020.
- Along with the Environment Agency and Natural Resources Wales we have published [new Generic Design Assessment \(GDA\) guidance](#) for Requesting Parties. It reflects the changes seen in the nuclear industry in the decade since GDA was introduced, in particular the Nuclear Sector Deal and the potential for Small Modular Reactor designs to enter GDA in the future. The new guidance also incorporates lessons learnt from previous GDAs.
- Together with the Environment Agency, we have also published a [joint annual report](#) on our scrutiny of Radioactive Waste Management's work to develop geological disposal. This report summarises our work relating to the geological disposal of radioactive waste.
- We have formally concluded the [licence revocation for the Cardiff Nuclear Licensed Site](#) in Wales, thereby de-licensing the site. This follows many years of nuclear site decommissioning and work to clean up the site and is the first time ONR has de-licensed a site completely, although several sites have been de-licensed by ONR's predecessor organisation, the Nuclear Installations Inspectorate.

5.3 Stakeholder Engagement

In November, we hosted our second NGO Forum of the year and were delighted to welcome 18 NGO attendees from 14 different organisations. Agenda items included our work at Sellafield, ageing management of reactors and our relationship with the Defence Nuclear Safety Regulator. Presentations and minutes from all our [NGO Forum meetings](#) are made available on our website. If you represent an NGO group and would like to get involved with our NGO Forum, please get in touch with our Communications team (contact@onr.gov.uk) for further details.

5.4 Corporate news

All our latest news is available on our website www.onr.org.uk

6 CONTACTS

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