

VULCAN NAVAL REACTOR TEST ESTABLISHMENT**DNSR QUARTERLY REPORT****1 Oct 2021 to 31 Dec 2021****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 Enterprise¹ 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 Enterprise. 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 Jul 2021 to 30 Sept 2021.

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, 5 routine visits were made to Vulcan NRTE by DNSR. Regular weekly MoD NET Skype meetings with NSV have been established and remain in place due to COVID 19 restriction.

- a. **23 Nov 21** - Dounreay Submarine Prototype No 1 (DSMP1) Fuel Management Operations planning meeting and Level 4 Regulatory Interface Fora meeting to discuss the close out of the DSMP1 Safety Case action;
- b. **24 Nov 21** - Lonestar 21 Demonstration Briefing and Shore Test Facility and DSMP1 Facility walk through;
- c. **25 Nov 21** - Authorisation Condition (AC)11 (Emergency Arrangements) – Annual Vulcan NRTE Lonestar 21 Demonstration exercise;

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).

- d. **8 & 9 Dec 21** - Authorisation Condition (AC) 21 (Commissioning) - Readiness Inspection to inform the regulatory permissioning of Fuel Management Operations at the DSMP1 Facility.

PERMISSION AND ENFORCEMENT ACTIVITY

4. DNSR has given consent to conduct Fuel Management Operations at the DSMP1 Facility during this quarter. DNSR has not placed any regulatory enforcement action on the Naval Superintendent Vulcan in this quarter.

NON-ROUTINE MATTERS

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

< Signed on Original >

DNSR IFR-b

13 Jan 2022

Distribution: (Indicates* by e-mail)

External:

NSV, Vulcan NRTE*

Dounreay Stakeholder Group*

ONR Site Inspector*

NRPA (IAM)*

SEPA*

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Internal:

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