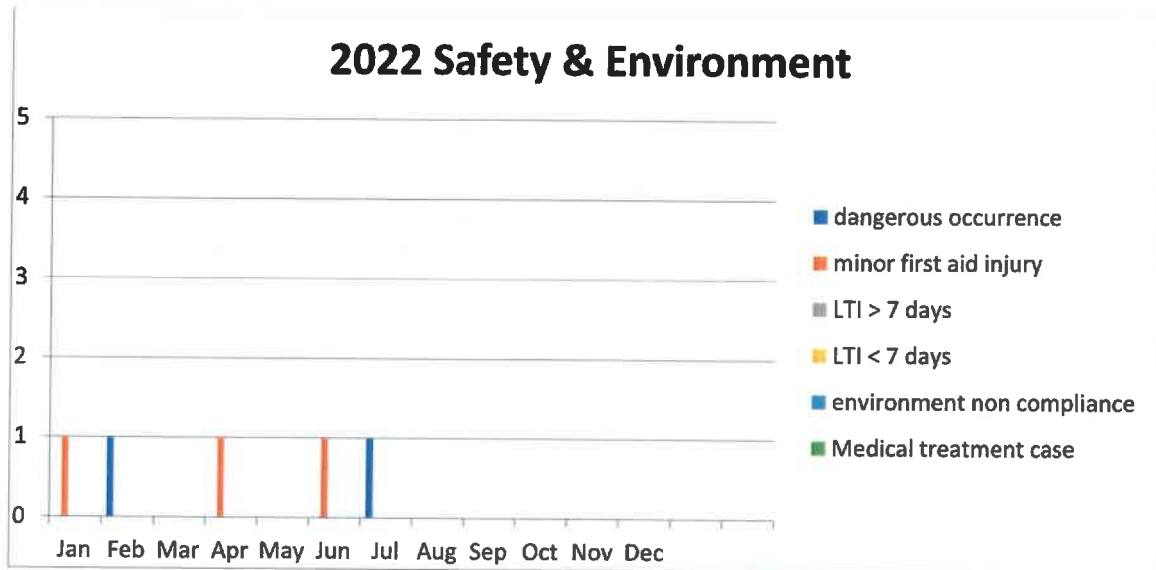


VULCAN NRTE Report to the DSG – October 2022



Health and Safety/COVID-19

1 RIDDOR Reportable Event (1751728016) in July – STF 30T EOT Crane failure to respond to a stop lowering demand. There were no injuries to personnel and no damage to equipment or infrastructure. This crane is not justified for ‘nuclear operations’. Verbally reported at the last Sub-group.

Whilst we have reduced COVID mitigation measures and noting the legal requirement for self-isolation has been removed, we are emphasising to all at Vulcan that if they display any symptoms of COVID – or indeed any other contagious illness – they should not come to site and self-isolate at home.

Environment

There have been no challenges to the Approval of Arrangements (AoA) limits during this period.

Radioactive Waste Disposal

At the end of August, the annual rolling discharge (expressed as a percentage against the maximum detailed in the SEPA letter of agreement) was:

| | Type | Percentage |
|----------------|--|------------|
| Gaseous | Noble Gases | 0% |
| | Other radionuclides not specifically listed, taken together. | 18.4% |
| Liquid | Cobalt 60 | 0.09% |
| | All other radionuclides not specifically listed, taken together. | 0.17% |

| | Type | Percentage |
|--------------|------------------------|------------|
| | Tritium | 0.000% |
| Solid | No waste sent off site | N/A |

Shore Test Facility Programme

The defuel of the STF has now completed.

The supporting infrastructure for the defuel process has started to be disassembled and removed.

DSMP1 Pond Fuel Removal

The removal of fuel from the DSMP1 Pond facility is now complete.

Events

Since the last meeting no events have occurred that required reporting to DNSR in accordance with their **mandatory** reporting criteria.

The RIDDOR Reportable Event, was reported to the HSE within the required timescales. As ONR, who lead HSE matters at Vulcan, are on site in November the opportunity will be taken to provide them with an update on the investigation of the failure.

Emergency Arrangements

The planning for Exercise LONESTAR, the site's annual nuclear emergency response demonstration, is in the final stages. The exercise, with agreement from the Regulators has been moved from November to December.

Regulatory Inspections / Audits

DNSR undertook the site's Annual Review of Safety (ARoS) in August with positive feedback from Mr Paul Jessop, the DNSR lead on the day.

Site is approaching a busy period with 5 DNSR/ONR inspections planned between now and Christmas. This is no reflection of any concerns of the Regulators, just that moving LONESTAR has created an additional inspection, and another inspection was rescheduled from earlier in the year.

Vulcan Decommissioning Programme

The programme has progressed significantly in the last few months; the current focus is on the development of plans and options to be submitted as part of the NDA Approval Process. This will be through an NDA Outline Business Case (OBC).

The OBC is the second of three gates in the NDA Project Approval process. The purpose of the OBC is to assess the strategic options on who should lead the decommissioning programme, select a preferred option and set out what arrangements are possible under that option. It also details the resource and activities needed to be completed before the final Approval Gate (the Full Business Case) can be achieved.

The intention is to submit the OBC into the NDA Due Process in early 2023.

Work is also ongoing to determine how a transfer of Regulatory regimes (from Military to Civilian) would be enacted, as this is considered to likely be the critical path in any transfer.

Other

The current Rolls-Royce contract for operation of Vulcan expires on 31 December 2022; we are in the final stages of negotiating an extension to that contract for operation of the Site from 1 January 2023. This contract extension will be under the Single Source Contracting Regulations.

The Scottish Government Radiological Waste Policy Team have visited site twice in this period in July and September.

The Defence Nuclear Safety Committee have visited site recently as part of their normal drum beat of visiting sites across the Naval Nuclear Propulsion Programme. The initial feedback was very positive.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'I Walker'. The signature is written in a cursive style with a long horizontal stroke at the top.

I Walker
Commander Royal Navy
Naval Superintendent Vulcan

