

# Office for Nuclear Regulation (ONR)

## Site Report for Dounreay

**Report for period 1 October – 31 December 2022**

### **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 Stakeholder Group and are also available on the ONR website (<http://www.onr.org.uk/llc/>).

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

## 1.1. Dates of Inspection

ONR site inspectors made inspections on the following dates during the report period 1 October – 31 December 2022:

- 18 to 20 October 2022
- 8 to 10 November 2022
- 6 to 8 December 2022

## 2. Routine Matters

### 2.1. Inspections

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

- the conditions attached by ONR to the nuclear site licence granted under the Nuclear Installations Act 1965 (NIA65) (as amended);
- the Energy Act 2013;
- the Health and Safety at Work etc 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).

The inspections entail monitoring the licensee's actions on the site in relation to incidents, operations, maintenance, projects, modifications, safety case changes and any other matters that may affect safety. The licensee is required to make and implement adequate arrangements under the conditions attached to the licence in order to ensure legal compliance. Inspections seek to judge both the adequacy of these arrangements and their implementation.

In this period, routine inspections of Dounreay covered the following:

- Control of modification or experiment on existing plant (nuclear site licence condition (LC 22));
- Lifting focused inspection (covering conditions and limits of safe operation (LC23), operating instructions (LC24), EIMT (Examination, inspection, maintenance and testing) (LC28), Lifting Operations and Lifting Equipment Regulations (LOLER), etc.;
- Restrictions on nuclear matter on the site (LC4);
- Accumulation of radioactive waste (LC32); and
- Leakage and escape of radioactive material and radioactive waste (LC34).

Members of the public, who would like further information on ONR's inspection activities during the reporting period, can view site Intervention Reports at [www.onr.org.uk/intervention-records](http://www.onr.org.uk/intervention-records) on our website [www.onr.org.uk](http://www.onr.org.uk). Should you have any queries regarding our inspection activities, please email [contact@onr.gov.uk](mailto:contact@onr.gov.uk).

In addition:

ONR inspectors, alongside the Scottish Environmental Protection Agency and representatives of the local planning authority, attended interactions with Dounreay on potential modifications to the site's currently declared end state. No definitive proposals have been made by the dutyholder at this time. ONR, alongside the other

regulatory bodies, will continue to maintain contact with Dounreay on this matter to ensure a suitable end state is established to inform development of Dounreay's lifetime plan.

ONR specialists continue to review Magnox Limited's application to hold the nuclear site licence for the Dounreay site. This process is still ongoing but currently no substantive concerns surrounding the transfer of the site licence have been identified.

ONR has continued to remain informed on all major site activities that affect health & safety and continues to undertake proportionate assessment activities necessary to support the release of regulatory hold-points placed on a number of the projects on site.

## 2.2. Other Work

The site inspector continues to conduct formal quarterly reviews of the site's progress in delivering a number of agreed improvement activities. Topics include:

- safety culture
- establishing appropriate waste route for hazardous waste materials
- reporting and investigation of incidents and organisational learning
- emergency arrangements
- quality assurance and governance of safety documentation
- DSRL decommissioning programme
- review of proposed changes to the target end state of decommissioning at the site

The site inspector held a periodic meeting with safety representatives, to support their function of representing employees and receiving information on matters affecting their health, safety, and welfare at work.



### 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.

No matters or events of particular note were reported during this 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 new Enforcement Notices, Letters or Licence Instruments were issued this period.

## 5. News from ONR

For the latest news and information from the Office for Nuclear Regulation, please read and subscribe to our regular email newsletter 'ONR News' at [www.onr.org.uk/onrnews](http://www.onr.org.uk/onrnews)

## 6. Contacts

Office for Nuclear Regulation  
Redgrave Court  
Merton Road  
Bootle  
Merseyside  
L20 7HS  
website: [www.onr.org.uk](http://www.onr.org.uk)  
email: [Contact@onr.gov.uk](mailto:Contact@onr.gov.uk)

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