

Dounreay Site Stakeholder Group

Site Restoration Sub-Group



Site Inspection Work & EASR Compliance

SEPA continue to undertake its investigation into the circumstances and compliance implications of a gaseous tritium leak from a drum of alkali metal stored at the PFR facility.

SEPA has concluded its investigation into the circumstances and EASR permit compliance implications of the pressure excursion at the PFR sodium tank farm. SEPA's investigation concluded that DSRL had contravened conditions of its EASR radioactive substances authorisation. In order to secure current and future compliance, in January SEPA issued a Final Warning Letter to DSRL that outlines the authorisation contraventions.

SEPA concluded its review of the steps taken to comply with the requirements of Regulatory Notice RN02. The Regulatory Notice was issued following an inspection in September 2019 which identified a number of shortcomings in the implementation of site standards relating to inspection and maintenance of equipment which are relied upon for environmental compliance. Following its review SEPA was content DSRL had met the requirements and formally withdrew the notice in March.

Week commencing 17th April SEPA are undertaking a compliance inspection which will look at compliance with a number of EASR permit conditions in the context of solid low level waste management at a number of waste generating facilities.

SEPA had a number of engagements with DSRL to be updated on decommissioning projects across the site.

Transition to Magnox

SEPA transferred all environmental permits falling under its remit from DSRL to Magnox Ltd with effect from 1st April 2023. All limits and conditions remain as per those in force when DSRL held the equivalent permits.

Low Level Radioactive Waste Facility

SEPA continue to engage with the LLWF team on a regular basis and are content that the facility continues to operate in a compliant manner. Inspections of the site comprise remote inspections with at least one visit to the site each year; this year's visit to the site and physical inspection of the vaults was carried out w/c 10th April.

Non-Nuclear Site Regulation

An inspection was carried out on the Site Waste Management Licence WML/L/1095876 on 16th March and was found to be compliant.

On the 20th March SEPA were advised that 4 bags of hazardous clinical waste were mistakenly uplifted and taken to Seater for disposal on the 17th March. This was discovered on 20th March when hazardous waste was due to be collected but was no longer in its bin for collection. Although classed as hazardous clinical waste Magnox advised this is a precautionary over-classification and would only have been secondary wastes associated with routine environmental monitoring. The bags could not be retrieved as the disposal area has been capped over in Seater landfill. An investigation report has been submitted to SEPA with a number of follow up actions to be completed by 30th April.

Vulcan

SEPA continue to engage with the relevant parties on the future of the Vulcan site.

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