



ONR Site Report

Ministry of Defence – NRTE Vulcan

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Report for period: 1 October 2023 – 31 March 2024

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Approved by: Superintending Inspector

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Foreword

This report is issued as part of our 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 our website (<http://www.onr.org.uk/lrc/>).

Our site inspectors 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 us via contact@onr.gov.uk.

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1. Inspections

1.1. Date(s) of Inspection

Our site inspector made inspections on the following dates during the report period October – March 2024:

- Electricity at Work Regulations 1989 Compliance Inspection – 19 March 2023

2. Routine Matters

2.1. Inspections

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

- 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 involve monitoring the dutyholders actions on the site in relation to incidents, operations, maintenance, modifications, and any other matters that may affect safety. The dutyholder is required to make and implement adequate arrangements in line with regulations to ensure legal compliance. Inspections seek to judge both the adequacy of these arrangements and their implementation.

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

- management of operations including control and supervision
- staff training, qualifications and experience
- electrical safety
- incidents on the site
- conventional (non-nuclear) health and safety.

Members of the public, who would like further information on our inspection activities during the reporting period, can view site Intervention Reports at www.onr.org.uk/intervention-records

Should you have any queries regarding our inspection activities, please email contact@onr.gov.uk.

2.2. Other Work

The site inspector and a radiological protection specialist inspector held a meeting with the site to discuss progress in updating the sites radiological incident testing arrangements to address the regulatory issue raised in the 2023 IRR inspection.

The site inspector attended the DSG to provide an update on regulatory activities undertaken at NRTE Vulcan.

The site inspector attended meetings with Ministry of Defence (MOD), Nuclear Decommissioning Authority (NDA), Vulcan NRTE, Nuclear Restoration Services, Scottish Environmental Protection Agency, and the Defence Nuclear Safety Regulator to discuss project Saltus and the planned transfer of the Vulcan site from the MOD to NDA.

3. Non-Routine Matters

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

Within this period the following event at NRTE Vulcan has been reported to us:

- A worker injured their back whilst decanting ad-blue (a solution used to reduce harmful emissions from diesel vehicles) into a works road vehicle resulting in them needing to take time off work. We acknowledged and recorded this incident but have not formally followed it up as the nature of the event does not warrant formal regulatory activity.

4. Regulatory Activity

We may issue formal documents to ensure compliance with regulatory requirements. Inspectors may take a range of enforcement actions, to include issuing an enforcement notice.

No enforcement notices or enforcement letters were issued during this period.

5. News from ONR

For the latest news and information from us, please read and subscribe to our regular email newsletter 'ONR News' at www.onr.org.uk/onrnews.

6. Contacts

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