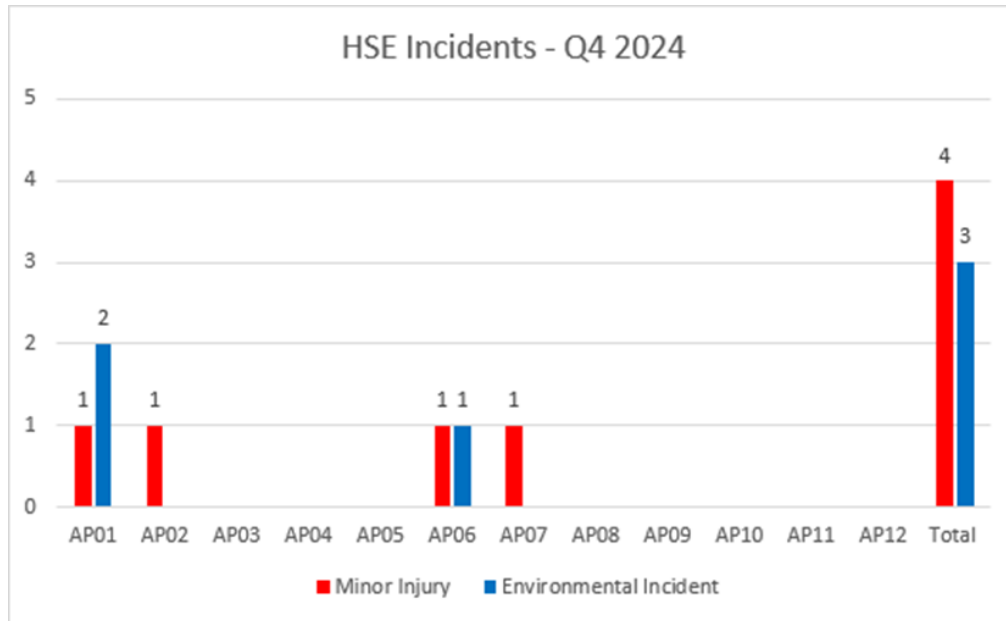


**VULCAN NRTE Report to the DSG – January 2025****Health and Safety**

There have been no Lost Time Accidents/reportable events since my last report to the Sub-Group.

Please note that this graph is taken from a Rolls-Royce management system and AP stands for Accounting Period; with AP01 effectively aligning with January, AP02 aligning with February, so forth.

**Environment**

There have been no environmental events since my last update to the Sub-Group.

Following numerous failures, as reported to the DSG, it was decided to replace the current sewage flowmeter with a new design. The design work has now been completed and the components are on order. It is planned to commence installation in the next few months. In the meantime, daily checks of the flowmeter system, introduced to identify any failure within 24 hours, continue.

**Radioactive Waste Disposal**

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

At the end of November 2024, the annual rolling discharge (expressed as a percentage against the maximum detailed in the SEPA letter of agreement) was:

	Type	Percentage
<b>Gaseous</b>	Noble Gases	0%
	Other radionuclides not specifically listed, taken together.	5.1%
<b>Liquid</b>	Cobalt 60	0.03%
	All other radionuclides not specifically listed, taken together.	0.05%
	Tritium	0.00%
<b>Solid</b>	No waste sent off site	N/A

In December, Vulcan successfully completed the transfer of drums containing solid Low-Level Waste (LLW) to Dounreay. This was a culmination of a significant amount of work, especially by the Radioactive Waste team, to prepare and complete all the necessary fingerprints, reports, analysis, assay, and development of processes to re-establish the disposal route (which had not been used since 2013). This work was required due to changes in the Dounreay Waste Acceptance Criteria.

In December, Site received a draft of the EA(S) 18 style permit that SEPA intend to replace our current RSA 93 style permit with. We are currently reviewing the draft, on completion of which, we will provide feedback to SEPA. SEPA have not provided a timescale for the transition.

### Site Programme

The Site operations that commenced in October remain in progress, on schedule and are due to be completed in April.

The remainder of the Site programme also progresses to schedule.

### Events

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

### Emergency Arrangements

Following the informal engagements last year, the formal process for the planning of this years' nuclear emergency demonstration, LONESTAR, has commenced. As it is

a combined Level 1 and Level 2 demonstration, the planning is in conjunction with Highland Council. The first meeting was held on 14 January.

### **Regulatory Inspections / Audits**

During this reporting period, there have been no regulatory inspections with DNSR.

Alexandra Pitsillos has taken over from Richard Faris as the ONR Lead Site Inspector for Vulcan and a site familiarisation visit was conducted in October.

At the request of ONR, we recently held a Level 4 Regulatory Interface Forum (RIF). The purpose of which was to provide a general update on Site activities. At the RIF, the ONR informed us that the next inspection, which will be on Fire Safety, will be in March. The planning of which has commenced.

On Thursday 26 September, Vulcan hosted a SEPA Radioactive Substances inspection. The focus of the inspection was to review the site solid active waste processes and records. No areas of concern were identified during the inspection and further discussions have been held on the self-identified errors within historic monthly returns. On 16 October, we received formal notification of the actions required to address these errors; this notification was in line with our expectations. As per our discussions with SEPA, we provided the programme of works for the correction of these errors to them on 31 December.

### **Vulcan Decommissioning Programme**

The Joint Project Team continues to progress the workstreams to enable the transfer to the NDA at a suitable point. The focus remains on developing the submissions required for the applications for the Nuclear Site License and SEPA permits.

### **Other**

I wish to extend my thanks to Rolls-Royce for repairing the Thurso town clock as part of their community support programme. I appreciate how much this clock means to the people of Thurso, and I am pleased Rolls-Royce were able to complete this very challenging project to enable the clock to be operational again in time for Christmas and the New Year.

I Walker  
Commander Royal Navy  
Naval Superintendent Vulcan