

Sizewell Stakeholder Group

Sizewell B report – September 2022

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1. Safety performance and staffing

Station Safety Performance

We measure our safety performance against top tier indicators, including nuclear reportable events, environmental events, and staff and contract partner recordable injuries.

During the period of the report there have been:

- No recordable injury
- No nuclear reportable incidents
- No environmental incidents

Staffing at Sizewell B

We currently have **536** EDF staff this includes **9** Apprentices, **2** Industrial placements, **2** Technical Trainees, and **10** Visitor Centre staff and 250 year round contracting partner's.

2. Operations

Sizewell B performance

The station has operated at around full power during this period.

3. Sizewell B and community news

Sizewell B Refuelling Outage 2023

Sizewell B power station will be brought offline 17th February 2023 to begin its eighteenth refuelling and maintenance outage, as planned.

An extra 1,000 specialist workers will join the Sizewell workforce and provide a boost to the area's hotels and businesses.

During the outage period, which is expected to last about 7 weeks, they will carry out over 11,000 separate pieces of work which have been carefully planned during the last two years.

As well as refuelling the reactor, we will also deliver major investment and routine maintenance work during the outage:-

- Reactor Coolant Pump hydraulic exchange and inspection
- Structural weld overlay of pressuriser nozzles
- Condensate Storage Tank alignment
- Turbine Generator 2 rotor replacement
- Thermal Sleeve inspection
- Inspect of primary circuit pipework

Refuelling outages are always busy periods for us and for the area. We aim to minimise the impact to the local community wherever possible.

Dry Fuel Storage at Sizewell B update

During the final stage of processing one of the fuel storage casks, an anomaly was identified in the form of a pin hole in the cladding of a single fuel pin. This was detected through sample analysis of the Helium gas that is used to cool the fuel inside the cask which is part of the normal monitoring process. This is not an uncommon issue for dry fuel store users around the world.

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The fuel remains safely contained inside the sealed fuel storage cask which remains inside the fuel pond building on site and meets all station and regulatory requirements for storage.

A safety case has been submitted to the ONR for management of the cask. The cask will only be moved to the Dry Fuel Store when the safety case is approved by the regulator.

Relocated Facilities at Sizewell B

Excavation of the relocated facilities site is continuing to progress with the old reservoir walls and infill reaching completion. Top soil deposition to EDF land north of the Sizewell B site for use as part of the Sizewell C project continues alongside this.

Installation of the retaining wall on the north east corner is in progress. The works are being carried out by Imtech and numbers are approx. 25 people on site.

Negotiations for utilisation of land within Sizewell A in preference to Pill Box Field, are progressing well.

More than £300,000 awarded to improve accessibility and inclusivity of the Suffolk AONB

Some of Suffolk's most loved, historic landmarks as well as projects that will improve accessibility and inclusivity are among ten organisations to receive more than £15,000 in grant funding, bringing the total to more than £300,000.

The Coast & Heaths Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty Amenity and Accessibility Fund aims to improve the environment and natural character of the area by awarding grants to projects that conserve habitats and species and improve sustainable access to the area. For the 2022-23 funding year, a total of £15,251.15 from the Amenity and Accessibility Fund was awarded to ten projects.

Butley Ferry were awarded £2,863.17 to renovate the 50+ year old ferry to increase its service life, improve buoyancy and its general appearance, whilst a new micro-generator for Woodbridge Tide Mill has been funded to help demonstrate electricity generation from hydropower.

Improving accessibility within the Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty is a key ongoing priority. RSPB Hollesley Marshes were awarded funding to replace the steps leading up the existing viewing platform at RSPB Hollesley Marshes with a ramp made from recycled plastic.

Other projects supported by the fund are a pond dipping project, accessible activities for SEND students (children with Special Educational Needs and Disabilities), Art projects and workshops, including a project that uses photography and storytelling to explore the global environmental crisis from a Suffolk viewpoint, in addition to bursary places at Suffolk SketchFest 2022, a 3-day celebration of sketching the maritime heritage & wildlife of the River Deben.

Waveney Bird Club have received funding for Phase 1 of a project that will design and build a Swift Tower structure to be designed by a renowned local sculptor, whilst the Woodbridge Riverside Trust have been awarded funding to improve lighting in the John Gibbins Gallery, which will be used for a range of community events.

Friends of Hollesley School were awarded a grant to create a forest school area within the school grounds for the children. Staff at Sizewell B are further supporting Hollesley School with the Sizewell 'Helping Hands Programme' with 25 workers from Sizewell B assisting with decking, removing old fencing, and general clearance work making the area ready for the forest school.

Funding for the Amenity and Accessibility Fund is provided by EDF, with an initial one-off payment of £120,000 made when construction of a Dry Fuel Store (DFS) for spent nuclear fuel at Sizewell B power station began, in addition to further annual payments by EDF of £20,000. The total awarded to local projects now exceeds £300,000.

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You can find out more about the Amenity and Accessibility Fund, and all the Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty's grants at www.suffolkcoastandheaths.org/managing.

Sizewell B support for Aldeburgh carnival

A dozen Sizewell B apprentices joined Aldeburgh carnival to assist organisers of the popular local seaside event, which returned after a three-year break due to the pandemic.

Apprentices from the Sizewell B maintenance team once again pitched in as stewards to ensure the safety of visitors and the carnival procession.

The apprentices helped with traffic management and ensured the float parade passes safely through Aldeburgh.

The power station has once again pledged £500 to boost carnival coffers and has supported the committee with the event organisation. Members of the Sizewell B visitor centre team will also help judge this year's carnival procession

Science in the Summer holidays

Over 200 children and their families filled the Sizewell B visitor this summer to experience a series of fun-filled science workshops.

'Be an Engineer', Power of Water and Air power workshop; children were busy making paper planes and testing the speed and distance of their balloon rockets. This workshop followed 'Fizz! Pop! Chemistry Fun!' where children explored chromatography by splitting colours and looking at the chemical reaction of inks on filter paper.

The Visitor Centre continues to be a popular choice with local schools and colleges to enhance the school curriculum. The centre is open to the public from 9am to 4.30pm Monday – Friday. To arrange a tour of the power station email Sizewellbtours@edf-energy.com

Recycling at Sizewell B welcomed by the community

Local fisher folk and the Suffolk Punch Trust are making innovative use of redundant pipes from Sizewell B.

The plastic pipes that reached the end of their useful life at the power station have been turned into skids to launch fishing boats and storage containers for horse feed.

The pipes once served the onsite water system but with the need to use highly purified water means the pipes are regularly replaced. There is such demand for them locally that there is a waiting list of local charities keen to give them a new home.

Waste is a challenge globally that is growing in line with our expanding population. Of the 26m tonnes of waste produced in the UK each year, 12m tonnes are recycled and 14m tonnes go to landfill. This gives the UK an average recycling rate of 45%, leaving plenty of opportunity for improvement. In our modern economic systems we make, use and dispose of things in a linear way. If we apply the circular economy principles, we recycle and reuse, keeping materials in the loop instead of throwing them away. It may not sound revolutionary, but it's key to preserving what we have and reducing our impact on the planet.

4. Company News

Prime Minister Boris Johnson visited Sizewell B and C

On 1st September the Prime Minister Boris Johnson visited Sizewell B and C.

[Link to Prime minister's speech.](#)

As part of the visit the Prime Minister undertook a tour of Sizewell B turbine hall and the training simulator control room where he met with apprentices.

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