



Office for
Nuclear Regulation

ONR Site Report

Hunterston B

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Hunterston B

Report for period: 1 October – 31 December 2022

Authored by: S Fannin, Nominated Site Inspector

Approved by: I Bramwell, Delivery Lead Operating Reactors

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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 Hunterston Site Stakeholder Group and are also available on the ONR website (<http://www.onr.org.uk/ilc/>).

Site inspectors from ONR usually attend Hunterston Site 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. Date(s) of Inspection

The ONR site inspector and specialist inspectors made inspections on the following dates during the report period 1 October – 31 December 2022

25 – 27 October 2022

22 – 24 November 2022

1, 13 – 15 December 2022

The ONR site security inspector made inspections on the following dates:

12, 16 – 17 November 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 Fire (Scotland) Act 2005;
- The Nuclear Industries Security Regulations (NISR) 2003, and;
- The Nuclear Safeguards (EU Exit) Regulations 2019 (NSR19).

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 (Hunterston B) covered the following:

- modifications to plant, equipment and safety cases;
- conventional (non-nuclear) health and safety;
- emergency preparedness;
- security.

Security – On the 12 October, the site security inspector evaluated a re-demonstration of some aspects of the site security response that had previously been rated not adequate. As a result of the improvements the inspector was satisfied with the re-demonstration and the inspection was rated adequate.

Modification to plant – On 25 and 26 October, specialist inspectors carried out an inspection of a modification to configure the plant with a closed-circuit cooling system which is appropriate for the shutdown state of the reactors. The inspectors were satisfied with the arrangements and the inspection was rated adequate.

Conventional (non-nuclear) health and safety – On 22 and 23 November, specialist inspectors carried out a Control of Major Accident Hazards Regulations (COMAH) inspection. The inspection examined the activities to reduce the hazard arising from flammable gases on site. The inspector was satisfied with the isolation of COMAH plant and safe removal of some COMAH materials from the site. The inspection was rated adequate.

Emergency preparedness – On the 14 December, the site inspector evaluated a re-demonstration of the station emergency arrangements following an inadequate demonstration earlier in the year. There was a good performance by personnel in the control centres and the simulated casualties were identified and recovered to the medical centre in a timely manner. The re-demonstration was therefore rated adequate.

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 on our website www.onr.org.uk.

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

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.

Matters and events of particular note during the period were:

On 5 December, smoke was observed coming from the shutdown turbine generator (TG) for Reactor 3. The site emergency teams responded to the event appropriately and the Scottish Fire and Rescue Service attended site and confirmed that there was no risk to workers on site or members of the public. The event was investigated and it was established that whilst the TG had been electrically powered down there remained an emergency trip circuit that had remained live which had subsequently overheated. Appropriate steps were taken to isolate all TG electrical circuits.

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 LIs, enforcement notices or e

nforcement letters were issued during this period.

5. News from ONR

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

6. Contacts

Office for Nuclear Regulation
Redgrave Court
Merton Road
Bootle
Merseyside
L20 7HS
website: www.onr.org.uk
email: Contact@onr.gov.uk

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