

Office for Nuclear Regulation (ONR)

Site Report for

Magnox Ltd Hinkley Point A

Report for period 1 October – 31 December 2022

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

Site inspectors from ONR usually attend Hinkley Point 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. Dates of Inspection

The ONR site inspector made inspections on the following dates during the report period 1 October to 31 December 2022:

- 8 and 15 November 2022
- 7 and 12 December 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 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 Magnox Ltd Hinkley Point A covered the following:

- examination, maintenance, inspection and testing;
- management of operations including control and supervision;
- staff training, qualifications and experience;
- modifications to plant, equipment and safety cases;
- plant construction and/or commissioning;
- emergency preparedness;
- incidents on the site;
- radiological protection;
- radioactive waste management;
- conventional (non-nuclear) health and safety;
- security.

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.

2.2. Other Work

On the 8 November 2022 the site safety inspector met with the Magnox Ltd Hinkley Point A and the Altrad Ltd lead teams to articulate regulatory expectations following an incident involving an Altrad Ltd asbestos contractor removing their respiratory protective equipment in an enclosure.

The site safety and the site security inspectors assessed an exercise demonstration of the site emergency arrangements on the 15 November 2022 and judged it as an adequate demonstration.

The site inspector attended the Magnox Ltd Oldbury, Berkeley and Hinkley Point A Quarterly Regulator Interface Meeting on the 12 December 2022 to discuss issues, events and project milestone updates at the sites.

The site inspector held regular meetings with the Site Director and weekly keep-in-touch meetings with the operational staff on site to discuss regulatory issues, site incidents, future permissioning and progress with significant decommissioning milestone delivery.

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 the 3 October 2022 during an assurance walk down of a live asbestos enclosure, Magnox Ltd site engineers witnessed an Altrad Ltd asbestos contractor within the enclosure not wearing his RPE, and who appeared to be asleep.
- On the 12 December 2022, Altrad Ltd scaffolding contractors setting up an asbestos enclosure and not wearing Respiratory Protective Equipment, despite this being a requirement for access. Note that this event has been concluded to be related to the incident on the 3 October 2022 and represents a failure to comply with LC26 arrangements.

ONR applied its enforcement policy to the causes of the incident on the 3 October 2022 and in response issued formal regulatory advice. Magnox Ltd and Altrad Ltd submitted action plans aimed at preventing a reoccurrence and returning both dutyholders to compliance. Completion was due by the 31 March 2023 and closure of the actions monitored by means of a Level 3 regulatory issue.

The incident on the 12 December 2022 is currently the subject of ONR preliminary enquiries. Both incidents demonstrated inadequate control and supervision arrangements, with the latter incident more significant. The ONR Site Inspector and the Decommissioning, Fuel and Waste Superintending Inspector have discussed with Magnox Ltd staff, including the Magnox Ltd Safety Director and the Site Director for Magnox Ltd Hinkley Point A, to ensure root causes are identified and actions are taken to prevent a reoccurrence.

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 Enforcement letters were issued during this period.
- Formal Regulatory Advice was given to Magnox Ltd regarding the reporting of site incidents and the control and supervision of operations, including its contractors on the 9 December 2022 following the incident in which a Altrad Ltd asbestos worker removed their respiratory protective equipment in an enclosure.

5. News from ONR

For the latest news and information from the Office for Nuclear Regulation, please read and subscribe to our regular email newsletter 'ONR News' at

www.onr.org.uk/onrnews

6. Contacts

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