



Site Stakeholder Group

Hinkley Point Site Stakeholder Group

Friday 30th June 2023 commencing at 0930 hours

Venue: Canalside, Bridgwater

Additional paperwork for this and previous meetings can be found on the website:

<https://magnoxsocioeconomic.com/ssg.php?site=hinkley-point-a>

AGENDA

All reports & presentations will be circulated with Agenda 2 weeks before meeting, members are requested to submit questions before the meeting, this is to allow responses to be made on day, questions received during meeting may be responded to in writing after the meeting.

1. 09.30 Welcome from the Chair.
2. 09:35 Apologies for absence.
3. 09.40 Open public Q&A session - Subject to Chairs discretion
4. 09.50 Minutes of the Meeting held 24 February 2023.
 1. Accuracy & Matters arising – see separate sheet.
5. 09.55 Site Director's presentation– Hinkley Point A Site, Kirandeep Basra–Steele
6. 10.10 Station Director's presentation- Hinkley Point B Station, Mike Davies
7. 10.25 Magnox corporate presentation – Bill Hamilton
Magnox – Rebranding, with the fleet growing Magnox leaders feel it is the right time to rebrand, Bill will update members on the progress and allow members an opportunity to discuss and gain a better understanding.
Magnox – Community engagement, The big conversation, the Chair and Bill will update members on Magnox's plans to reach out and build its engagement locally.
8. 10.55 Update from the NDA, Simon Napper
9. 11.05 Office for Nuclear Regulation (ONR) report Hinkley A, Paul Jenneson
10. 11.15 Office for Nuclear Regulation (ONR) report Hinkley B, Stephen Saunders
11. 11.25 Environment Agency Report Hinkley A, Tracy Braithwaite
12. 11.35 Environment Agency Report Hinkley B, Victoria Thomas
13. 11.45 Chairman's report to include proposal to reduce SSG meeting frequency from 3 to 2 meetings per year.
14. 12.00 Any other business

The next Hinkley Point SSG's meeting date to be confirmed.

HINKLEY POINT SITE STAKEHOLDER GROUP

**SUMMARY OF KEY POINTS ARISING AT THE MEETING
HELD AT THE CANALSIDE, BRIDGWATER ON FRIDAY 24 FEBRUARY 2023**

- Cllr Leigh Redman, Chairman of the Group, welcomed all those present to the meeting.
- Mr Steve Booth reported on activities at the Hinkley Point A Site. He said that high standards of safety performance had been maintained but on two occasions contractor's employees had been observed not to be wearing respiratory protective equipment in an asbestos enclosure. ONR had sent formal letters to Magnox and the contractor in respect of these events.
- Good progress had been maintained with the removal of traces of asbestos, the retrieval of radioactive wastes, and the installation and commissioning of waste processing facilities. The retrieval of fuel element debris from the wet vaults amounted to 40% of the Reactor 1 waste and 25% of the Reactor 2 waste. Fuel element debris remained in dry vaults.
- Mr Bill Hamilton reported on corporate Magnox issues. He drew attention to a new website which was to be introduced to provide details of the work of all Magnox Site Stakeholder Groups. He said that Magnox was to undergo some re-branding later in the year to reflect the fact that the scope of its work was expanding beyond the former magnox power station sites.
- Mr Mike Davies reported on activities at the Hinkley Point B station. He said that high safety standards had been maintained and it was now more than 16 years since the last reportable nuclear event. A member of staff had sustained a lost-time accident after tripping over a kerb on the station site.
- Following the start of defuelling Reactor 4 in September, thirty fuel assemblies had been removed (each reactor contained 308 fuel assemblies). Defuelling of Reactor 3 would follow after Reactor 4; a pre-defuelling outage would shortly take place on Reactor 3.
- Potential hazards on the B Station site were being reduced by the removal of liquids and gases which had been used during operations but were no longer needed. These materials were being recycled where appropriate.
- Members received reports from the NDA, the Office for Nuclear Regulation, and the Environment Agency.

HINKLEY POINT SITE STAKEHOLDER GROUP

Minutes of the meeting held at the Canalside, Bridgwater on 24 February 2023

PRESENT

Cllr L Redman (Chair)	-	Bridgwater Town Council
Mr S Booth	-	Head of EHS&Q, Hinkley Point A
Mr M Davies	-	Station Director, Hinkley Point B

Elected Members

Cllr H Davies	-	Somerset County Council
Cllr Ms S Goss	-	Stogursey Parish Council
Cllr W Hawley	-	Fiddington Parish Council
Cllr K Hewson	-	Bawdrip Parish Council
Cllr M Hodson	-	Spaxton Parish Council
Mr A Jeffery	-	Bridgwater & W Somerset Green Party
Mr M Laver	-	West Hinkley Action Group
Cllr Ms R Perrett	-	Otterhampton Parish Council
Cllr Ms A Reed	-	Wembdon Parish Council
Cllr J Roberts	-	Nether Stowey Parish Council
Ms M Smith	-	West Somerset Green Forum

Co-opted Members

Mr M Brown (Vice Chairman)

Appointed Members

Mr S Napper	-	Nuclear Decommissioning Authority
Mr S Saunders	-	Office for Nuclear Regulation
Ms T Braithwaite	-	Environment Agency
Mr A Wintle	-	Environment Agency
Mr P Stevens	-	Somerset County Council
Ms L Martin	-	Somerset County Council
Mr C Jones	-	Somerset County Council
Ms N Dawson	-	Somerset County Council
Mr J Burton	-	Somerset West and Taunton Council
Ms P Everett	-	Nether Stowey Parish Council

EDF Energy

Mr D Uminski
Mr D Stokes
Mr G Snow
Mr J Mason
Mr M Pardoe

Magnox

Mr B Hamilton

IN ATTENDANCE

Mr M J Davis

- Secretary

APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

- 1 Cllr Redman welcomed all those present to this meeting of the Site Stakeholder Group for Hinkley Point A Site and Hinkley Point B Power Station.
- 2 Apologies for absence were received from Ms Basra-Steele, Ms V Thomas, Mr P Jenneson, Mr I Liddell-Granger MP, Ms E Vaughan-Lewis, Mr D Bamsey, Ms C Pritchard, Cllr G Richardson, Cllr C Morgan, Cllr Ms L Naylor, Cllr Ms Whetlor, Mr A Debenham and Cllr B Eyley.
- 3 It was noted that there were insufficient members present to constitute a quorum for this meeting.

OPEN PUBLIC Q&A SESSION

- 4 Cllr Redman invited questions from members of the public. No questions were raised.

MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETINGS

(a) Accuracy

- 5 The minutes of the meeting of this Group held on 28 October 2022 were approved as a correct record.

(b) Matters Arising

Carbon Dioxide Savings from operation of Hinkley Point B (para 24 refers)

- 7 Mr Davies said that during the operating life of Hinkley Point B station its output had avoided the emission of 108 million tonnes of carbon dioxide. The calculation of this figure assumed that the station's output had instead been produced by combined cycle gas turbine plant; if the station's output had been generated instead by coal-fired plant then the carbon dioxide savings would be at twice that level. Carbon dioxide used by the station for reactor cooling together with CO₂ emissions from ancillary plant using fuel oil on the site amounted to some 0.3% of the total saving.

SITE DIRECTOR'S REPORT – HINKLEY POINT A SITE

- 8 Mr Booth reported on activities at the A Site since the previous meeting, drawing particular attention to the following:

- (i) There had been no significant accidents or incidents on the Site since the previous meeting. A recent accident which had resulted in a hand injury was being investigated.
 - (ii) On two occasions, in October and December 2022, a contractor's personnel had been observed to be not wearing respiratory protective equipment within an asbestos enclosure. Formal regulatory advice had been issued by ONR to the Site and to the contractor.
 - (iii) The Site's emergency arrangements had been demonstrated to the satisfaction of the ONR in an exercise in November.
 - (iv) Good progress was being maintained with decommissioning projects and asbestos remediation work was nearing completion.
 - (v) Retrievals of fuel element debris from the wet vaults were continuing. Some 40% of the Reactor 1 waste and 25% of the Reactor 2 waste had been retrieved. Fuel element debris waste had not yet been retrieved from the dry vaults.
 - (vi) The station continued to provide support for local organisations and activities under its socio-economic support scheme. Members were invited to contact the Site if they were aware of any potential activities which might benefit from this scheme.
- 9 Cllr Ms Reed asked, in relation to the reported failure to wear respiratory protective equipment in an asbestos enclosure, whether younger people were less aware of potential dangers of asbestos. Mr Booth said it was possible that the attitudes of the individuals involved might have been influenced by their limited knowledge of potential hazards. Mr Saunders said that as part of its role to ensure compliance with the law, ONR considered the facts of incidents in order to give a response which was proportionate to the circumstances. In this case an enforcement letter had been issued.
- 10 In response to a question from Mr Jeffery, Mr Booth said that solutions had been found to difficulties reported at an earlier meeting related to the grab used for retrieving fuel element debris.

MAGNOX CORPORATE REPORT

- 11 Mr Hamilton reported on Magnox corporate issues. He drew particular attention to the following:
- (i) He emphasised the points made by Mr Booth on the availability of support under the company's socio-economic scheme. Funds were available

centrally for supporting projects which were in excess of the limit delegated to Sites.

- (ii) New staff recruited to Magnox were required to undergo training on hazards associated with asbestos.
 - (iii) A new website was being introduced to provide information on the work of all Site Stakeholder Groups.
 - (iv) Magnox would be undertaking some re-branding to reflect its changing role as it took increased responsibility for sites other than the former Magnox power stations. This re-branding would take place later in the current year.
 - (v) Working with local authorities, the company was providing some funding for communities local to its Sites to provide support on cost-of-living issues.
- 12 In reply to a question from Mrs Smith, Mr Hamilton said that there were good opportunities for apprentices to form careers with the company in view of the amount of work which remained to be done on site decommissioning.
- 13 Mr Booth undertook to provide Mr Jeffrey with information on work being done to repair sea defence walls at Hinkley Point A.

STATION DIRECTOR'S REPORT – HINKLEY POINT B

- 14 Mr Davies reported on activities and performance at Hinkley Point B since the previous meeting of this Group, drawing particular attention to the following:
- (i) In December an employee had died as a result of a road traffic accident on his way home from work.
 - (ii) The station had maintained its high standards of safety performance and it was more than 16 years since the last nuclear reportable event. A lost time accident involving a member of staff had occurred when an individual had sustained a knee fracture after tripping over a kerb. A full investigation had taken place in order to prevent similar accidents in future.
 - (iii) Fire detection and alarm systems in the Charge Hall were being improved following shortcomings having been identified in an internal fire safety evaluation.
 - (iv) Hazards on site were being reduced by the removal of liquids and gases which had been used during operations but were now no longer required.

- (v) Since defuelling of Reactor 4 had started in September, thirty fuel assemblies had been removed from the reactor. It was anticipated that during defuelling three irradiated fuel flasks would be despatched from site each week. A pre defuelling outage on Reactor 3 would commence shortly.
- 15 In reply to a question from Cllr Hewson, Mr Davies confirmed that oils removed from the site because they were no longer needed, such as the large quantity of generator transformer oil, were sent for recycling.
- 16 Cllr Ms Reed asked whether in the event of a major traffic accident on the route between the station and Bridgwater, an irradiated fuel transport flask might be taken on an alternative route. Mr Davies said that road traffic conditions were checked before flask transporters left the site and in the event of an unexpected traffic hold up, a transporter would not be diverted through inappropriate areas.
- 17 Mr Davies assured Cllr Ms Goss that action was taken continuously to remind personnel working on the site of the importance **of** driving safely when travelling to and from the site. Cllr Ms Goss also asked about the need to continue to be ready to take stable iodine tablets. Mr Davies said that this was a matter for consideration by the local authority in making its off-site plans but that the company provided them with any advice they needed.
- 18 In response to a question from Cllr Hawley, Mr Davies said that after removal from the reactor, no significant differences had been observed between fuel assembly components which had been in service in the reactor for differing lengths of time.

UPDATE FROM THE NUCLEAR DECOMMISSIONING AUTHORITY

- 19 Mr Napper provided an update on current activities within the Nuclear Decommissioning Authority, drawing attention to the following:
 - (i) As a result of government changes, NDA would be reporting to the Department for Energy Security and Net Zero.
 - (ii) Following last year's stakeholder summit in Edinburgh, there was to be a series of regional stakeholder events during the coming year.
 - (iii) NDA staff had taken part in a skills fair event within parliament.
 - (iv) A government public consultation on radioactive waste management was about to be launched.
 - (v) An independent survey of stakeholders carried out for the NDA had identified progress in relation to trust, transparency and openness issues.

- (vi) At Berkeley, the first packages of waste in concrete box containers had been completed and transferred to the interim storage facility.
 - (vii) Geological analysis work was being undertaken in the area of the potential sites in Cumbria for the establishment of a geological disposal facility; similar work would be undertaken for the potential site in Lincolnshire in due course. NDA was seeking additional sites for consideration as potential hosts for a geological disposal facility.
- 20 Cllr Ms Goss felt it would be helpful to have a presentation from NDA at a future meeting on the arrangements for considering potential sites for a geological disposal facility.

OFFICE FOR NUCLEAR REGULATION REPORT

- 21 Mr Saunders reported on the ONR's inspection and regulatory activities. He introduced himself as the ONR's new Site Inspector for Hinkley Point B; Mr Jenneson had been unable to be present at this meeting. Reports from ONR inspectors had been circulated to members in advance of the meeting. Mr Saunders drew particular attention to the following:
- (i) As reported earlier in the meeting, ONR had issued an enforcement letter in respect of the failure of a contractor's employee to wear respiratory protective equipment.
 - (ii) Both A Site and B Station had demonstrated the adequacy of their emergency arrangements in exercises.

ENVIRONMENT AGENCY REPORT

- 22 Ms Braithwaite reported on the Environment Agency's monitoring and regulatory activities in relation to Hinkley Point A Site and B Station. A report on those activities had been circulated to members in advance of the meeting. Particular attention was drawn to the following:
- (i) Inspections had been carried out on both sites with no instances of non-compliance. An analysis of A Site gaseous emissions had also been carried out with satisfactory results.
 - (ii) The Agency had been notified during February that B station was not able to report the results for analysis of sulphur 35 in milk and herbage samples due to the samples not having been received by the external laboratory.
 - (iii) The annual report on radioactivity in food and the environment was available on the Agency's website.

CHAIR'S REPORT

- 23 Cllr Redman said that since the last meeting he had visited both sites for meetings with Directors. He confirmed that in due course he would be seeking opportunities for members to visit both sites.
- 24 Cllr Redman said that for future meetings he aimed to have reports circulated two weeks in advance of meetings and to provide ample opportunity for discussion on reported issues at meetings.
- 25 Referring to the discussion at the previous meeting on a review of the Group's membership, Cllr Redman said that the proposal to reduce the representation of Somerset County Council to six members of this Group would not allow for political proportionality in the nomination of representatives. He suggested that it would be necessary to amend the proposal to allow for "up to five" representatives of Somerset County Council. He said that he would be discussing this with Council officers in due course before proposals were brought forward for approval by this Group. Cllr Ms Goss emphasised the importance of representatives nominated by the Council being selected as being from areas reasonably local to the Hinkley Point site.
- 26 Responding to a comment by Mrs Smith, Cllr Redman said that he would be seeking opportunities for increasing the involvement of younger people in the work of this Group. He knew that this was supported by Directors.
- 27 Mr Jeffery asked for the address of the Magnox website for SSGs. Mr Hamilton said that details would be circulated to all members in due course.

OTHER URGENT BUSINESS

- 28 Ms Dawson and Mr Stevens reported on consideration given to potential changes in the Somerset County Council off-site plan for an emergency at Hinkley Point following the cessation of generation at Hinkley Point B. They confirmed that when a decision had been taken all residents in the detailed emergency planning zone would be invited to a drop-in session to inform them of the situation. They undertook to report back further at the next meeting of this Group.

DATE TIME AND PLACE OF NEXT MEETING

- 38 It was noted that the next meeting of this Group was scheduled to be held on Friday 30 June 2023

MJD
28 February 2023

OFFICIAL

Hinkley Point B Power Station Site Stakeholder Group Report



Mike Davies, Hinkley Point B Station Director
June 2023

OFFICIAL

1. Safety and station issues



Thank you for giving me the opportunity to present my report and operational update on behalf of the team at Hinkley Point B.

We measure our safety performance against top tier indicators, and I am pleased to report it is now over 16 years since we experienced a nuclear reportable event. This safety performance is comparable to some of the best performing nuclear power plants in the world, and we will ensure we maintain this focus and these high standards as we continue our defueling journey.

In terms of industrial safety, there has been one minor first aid injury at the site since the February meeting. Our performance in this area continues to be very strong, and we regularly focus and reinforce the expected standards and behaviours to ensure complacency does not creep in. In the past three years, there has been one lost time incident to a *Team Hinkley* member, and this was discussed at our last meeting.

It has also been over one year and a half years since our last top tier reportable environment event.

We are making good progress with defueling, and at the timing of writing this report we had defueled 25% of reactor 4. A total of 77 irradiated fuel assemblies (IFA) out of 308 have been removed from the reactor, and all vacant fuel channels have been loaded with plug units (the top section of a fuel stringer without the fuel elements attached). In July we plan to hold a four week long defueling outage where we will undertake planned maintenance activities to the charge machine and related fuel route plant.

We are coming to the end of a two month long post generation outage on reactor 3. This programme of work has consisted of approximately 2,500 planned tasks, involving fulfilling regulatory compliance requirements, implementing mandatory defueling safety cases necessities, and completing maintenance activities, in readiness to start defueling once we have finished defueling reactor 4. The key activities of this 'statutory outage', which is the last one we will complete at Hinkley Point B, have included boiler maintenance, main oil pump exchanges, decay heat system maintenance, Pressure Systems Safety Regulations (PSSR) inspections, and testing and maintenance of our protection and electrical systems.

We are doing everything we can to ensure the station has a smooth transition through defueling, and we are continuing to work very closely with Magnox and the Nuclear Decommissioning Authority (NDA) on transfer plans.

Following our first consultation on the decommissioning plan last year, we have incorporated this feedback into ongoing development of our decommissioning proposals. To enable further information to be available about our decommissioning plans at our second public consultation, we have decided to push back this consultation to the end of 2023 with the revised intention of submitting our application for consent to decommission Hinkley Point B under the Nuclear Reactor (Environmental Impact Assessment for Decommissioning) Regulations (EIADR) in summer 2024. This second consultation will address the key themes identified during the first consultation, provide further information on how decommissioning will be undertaken and provide an update on the progression of the EIA for decommissioning. This delay still provides plenty of time for consent to be granted to commence decommissioning by the ONR prior to the start of decommissioning on the site following the completion of defueling.

Collaborative work with Magnox is ongoing to identify the correct strategy for decommissioning waste facilities for Hinkley Point B. It is anticipated that any planning applications required for waste facilities would not come forward until 2025.

OFFICIAL

OFFICIAL

We have recently started a series of benchmarking visits to Oldbury Power Station. The South Gloucestershire based site ceased generation in 2012 after 44 years of operation, and completed defueling in 2016. The main focus of these planned visits is to understand the Magnox approach to deconstruction, and to see how the Oldbury site organisation was set up to deliver the decommissioning programme.

In March I had the pleasure of welcoming Ros Rivaz, Chair of the Nuclear Decommissioning Authority to the power station. Roz was joined by Kirandeep Basra-Steele, Hinkley Point A's Closure Director, and Paul Winkle, Magnox's Chief Operating Officer, and while at the site, our visitors took the opportunity to meet with station staff and took part in a plant tour.

2. Environmental update

The hazard reduction programme has continued with the removal of the turbine lub oil from TA7 and the emptying of the dirty lub oil tanks. Preparations are also underway for the removal of hydrazine and polyfluoroalkyl (PFAS) fire foams which will progress throughout this year.

As per the normal company process, all events of environmental interest are recorded and trended to determine the potential for continually improving our operational activities.

During May 2023, a minor technical non-compliance was identified whereby the results for the annual soil core sample for 2022 were reported incorrectly and the radiological content was overestimated. The correct data was confirmed as less than that reported and there were no associated environmental impacts identified. The station understands the mechanism for the error and is completing an investigation to document this.

3. Emergency arrangements

We have successfully completed our 2023 shift exercises programme. The general scenario we used was based on an incident involving some of the residual hazards that remain at the station following end of generation, as much of the chemical, oil and gas inventory has already been removed. Efforts to align our emergency arrangements to the new reduced risk at the site is continuing, and we are working very closely with our central functions and our colleagues at Hunterston B and Dungeness B.

Our annual Level 1 demonstration takes place on Thursday 22 June, and the scenario is set to be based on a security event which subsequently causes plant damage. This exercise will test both our safety and security arrangements simultaneously, and is designed to challenge the organisation in decision making and collaboration with Civil Nuclear Constabulary (CNC).

Since the October meeting, there have been three ambulances called to the site for individuals who have been taken ill at work. I am pleased to report all three have made full recoveries and have since returned to work.

4. Defueling Statistics

For the reporting period 14 February 2022 to 7 June 2023:

- 24 spent fuel flasks were dispatched to Sellafield (34 have been dispatched so far in 2023)

OFFICIAL

- 53 irradiated fuel assemblies (IFAs) have been removed from reactor 4. At the time of writing, in total 77 IFAs (25%) out of 308 have been removed from reactor 4

5. Staff

- > 460 EDF employees
- > 26 agency staff
- > 200 full-time contract staff

6. Company News

Company defueling milestone achieved

As I write this update, I am pleased to report the company has just passed a significant defueling milestone. Together both Hinkley Point B and Hunterston B have jointly defueled 308 channels across the two sites, the equivalent of one whole reactor. This comes just two weeks after Dungeness B became the third AGR (advanced gas-cooled reactor) to begin defueling.

7. Community News

Sponsorship and Donations

EDF continues to support local charities and organisations. Since the last meeting, local beneficiaries have included:

- > Street and District Swimming Club (the donation of a raffle prize)
- > Gift of Giving Shoebox Appeal (the sponsorship of a charity ball)
- > Bridgwater Wolves FC (the sponsorship of a children's football tournament)
- > Bridgwater Half Marathon and 5K Run (the sponsorship of first aid support and water stations)
- > Spaxton Flower Show Society (the sponsorship of tables for the 2023 Flower Show)

We also continue to print the following monthly community newsletters: Stogursey News, The Stockland Gatepost, and Fiddington News.

Charities, community and non-for profit groups who wish to apply for support from Hinkley Point B's Sponsorship and Donations groups should contact Dave Stokes at dave.stokes@edf-energy.com.

Charity fundraising

Staff and contract partners at Hinkley Point B are continuing to raise money for EDF's charity partner, Prostate Cancer UK. Currently the power station lie in first place in the EDF fundraising league after raising and banking £47,162 for the popular charity. Since EDF launched its four-year partnership with Prostate Cancer UK back in January 2020, the company has raised over £521,091.

And finally, to celebrate my 50th birthday and to commemorate the first anniversary of the final shutdown of Hinkley Point B's reactor 4, I have agreed to take part in a charity wingwalk experience for Prostate Cancer UK. The sponsored challenge will take place on Friday 7 July at RFC Rendcomb Airfield in Cirencester, and I will be standing on the top wing of a classic 1940s Boeing Stearman plane. Prostate Cancer UK is a fantastic charity, and any sponsorship would be very much appreciated - <https://www.justgiving.com/fundraising/mikeswingwalk>.

One of our shift operations teams have raised thousands of pounds with a charity challenge in memory of a former colleague. In early May the 11 individuals took on the Three Peaks challenge in honour of their colleague Mark Boobyer. As I sadly reported at the last SSG meeting, Mark tragically and unexpectedly died

OFFICIAL

while travelling home from work in early December 2022. The team took on the challenge to climb Scotland's Ben Nevis, England's Scafell Pike and Wales' Snowdon one after the other, to raise money for Josephine's Star - a local bereavement charity which has been supporting Mark's family. The intrepid team were joined by Mark's wife, Chloe, and their two sons Jack and Archie, and so far their efforts have raised more than £7,000.

I hope this report gives a useful overview of what's been happening at Hinkley Point B over the last four months, and please do let me know if you have any questions.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Mike Davies', with a long, sweeping horizontal line extending to the right.

Mike Davies



NDA Update

Simon Napper
Stakeholder Relations

Hinkley Point Site Stakeholder Group
29 June 2023

NDA Update

UK Government

- Minister for Nuclear and Networks appointed. He is Andrew Bowie, MP for West Aberdeenshire and Kincardine.
- Great British Nuclear has been launched. The Chief Exec is former Magnox CEO Gwen Parry-Jones. First priority will be to identify preferred options for SMRs
- NDA will support GBN where asked but they will be first port of call on new nuclear matters rather than NDA

NDA Update

Stakeholder Events

- After the event in Edinburgh last September, NDA has decided that the next in-person Stakeholder Summit will be held in Cumbria in 2024.
- There will be an online, virtual Summit this year, probably in October.
- During the year, though, we will be holding a series of in-person, regional meetings for stakeholders. It is planned these will be linked to universities with a nuclear science department, so that we can showcase the links between NDA, research and innovation.
- First one held in Cumbria on 8 June, second at Strathclyde on 28 June. We are looking to organise others later in the year..

NDA Update

The global dimension

- Decommissioning of nuclear facilities is not just a UK challenge. Most industrialised countries have a nuclear legacy and working together is a vital part of tackling the issue.
- Leaders from the US, Canada and France – together with NDA – recently committed to continuing their long-standing collaboration of clean up of nuclear legacy sites. The sharing of best practice and technical development has been taking place over three decades.
- The UK is currently hosting a tri-lateral between UK, US and Canada, working on further collaboration between the parties.

NDA Update

Funding the future

- Construction has begun at Sutherland Spaceport in Scotland, making this the first vertical launch spaceport to be built on the UK mainland
- NDA is one of a number of bodies supporting the Spaceport, which is near Dounreay.
- The development will support around 250 new employment opportunities in the Highlands and Islands over the coming years, including 40 jobs in Sutherland and Caithness.

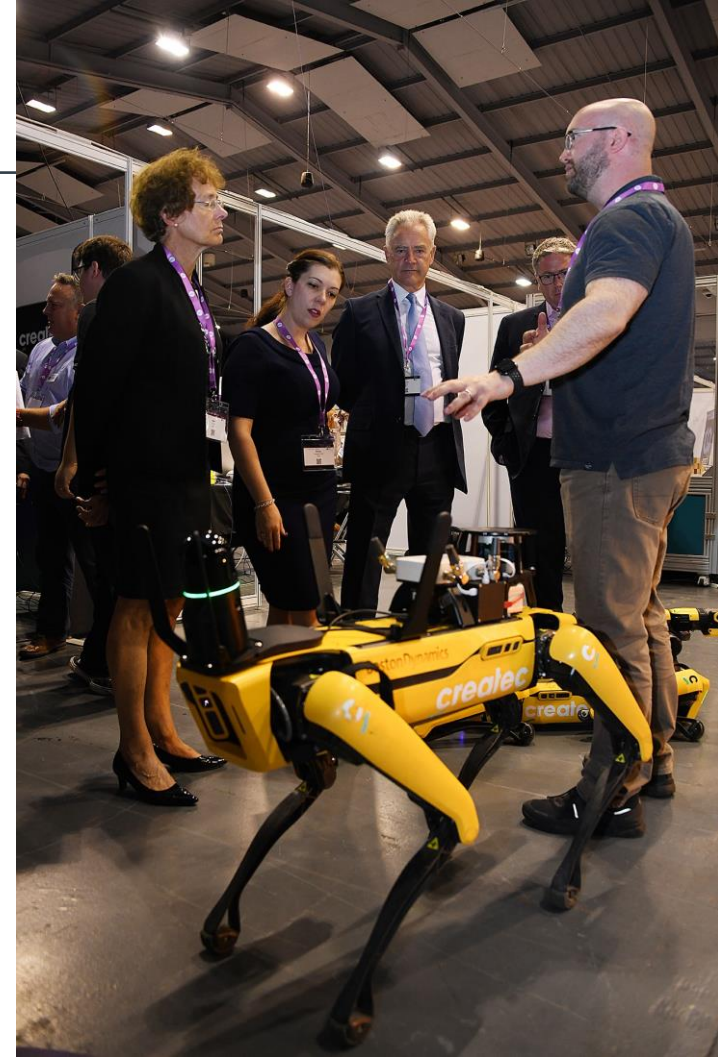


NDA Update

Spot the dog

- Robotics are coming into their own at our sites. Spot the dog has become a regular feature at Sellafield.
- The safety benefits are clear – this takes humans out of the hazardous area, reducing the risks to operators.
- But there are time and cost efficiencies too. Spot can work in these areas much longer than a human could safely do, halving predicted costs while markedly reducing the waste generated from protective gear.

OFFICIAL



NDA Update

Berkeley blower houses

- Magnox is ready to start a major decommissioning project to clean-up and demolish four 'blower house' superstructures at Berkeley site. Total contract value is £35 million.
- NDA operating company, Nuclear Waste Services (NWS) were awarded a £13.7m contract to manage 2,400 tonnes of metallic waste.
- The high-quality steel removed will be treated, recycled and returned to the metals market for reuse.





Making a difference





Office for
Nuclear Regulation

ONR Site Report

Magnox Ltd – Hinkley Point A

ONR Site Report

Magnox Ltd - Hinkley Point A

Report for period: 1 January – 31 March 2023

Authored by: P Jenneson, Nominated Site Inspector

Approved by: I Phillips, DFW Delivery Lead

Issue No.: 1

Publication Date: April-23

ONR Record Ref. No.: 2023/19344

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/ilc/>).

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.

Contents

1.	Inspections	4
2.	Routine Matters	5
3.	Non-Routine Matters	7
4.	Regulatory Activity	8
5.	News from ONR	9
6.	Contacts	9

1. Inspections

1.1. Date(s) of Inspection

The ONR site inspector carried out inspections on the following dates during the report period 1 January to 31 March 2023:

- 14 February 2023
- 7 & 8 March 2023

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:

- management of operations including control and supervision;
- staff training, qualifications and experience;
- decommissioning;
- organisational changes;
- 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

The site inspector attended the Magnox Ltd Oldbury, Berkeley and Hinkley Point A Quarterly Regulator Interface Meeting on the 13 March 2023 to discuss issues, events and project milestone updates at the sites. As this was the final quarter of the inspection year, it included an annual review of safety, security and environmental performance. The overall site performance across the Magnox Ltd Southwest region remains adequate and no new issues which would significantly impact ONR's purposes were identified.

The site inspector held regular meetings with the Site Director and weekly keep-in-touch meetings with the operational staff on site. At these meetings they discussed 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.

There were no such matters or events of significance during the period.

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 were issued during this period.
- Enforcement letter, ONR-EL-22-032 dated 26 January, was issued during the period, relating to the repeat Altrad asbestos enclosure incident reported in the last SSG report.

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

This document is issued by ONR. For further information about ONR, or to report inconsistencies or inaccuracies in this publication please visit <http://www.onr.org.uk/feedback.htm>.

If you wish to reuse this information visit www.onr.org.uk/copyright.htm for details.

For published documents, the electronic copy on the ONR website remains the most current publicly available version and copying or printing renders this document uncontrolled.

Environment Agency report to the Hinkley Point Site Stakeholder Group.

June 2023

Introduction

This report covers the Environment Agency's regulation of the Hinkley Point A & B nuclear sites and related issues for the period March to May 2023.

Radioactive substances regulation

We regulate radioactive waste disposals to the environment. We do this through environmental permits that contain limits and conditions aimed at minimising wastes and protecting the environment. We also check compliance with these permits by making regular inspections at Hinkley Point A & B.

Regulatory compliance interactions are recorded in Radioactive Substances Compliance Assessment Reports (RASCARs). These summarise the type of work we have undertaken, describe any non-compliance or observations and good practice, and include actions or recommendations from our findings. They are public register records and can be provided on request (please see the 'further information' section at the end of this document to find out how to request public register records - in the link below).

We maintain regular contact with the sites between visits to the sites.

Hinkley Point A

In our previous report in February, we had recently carried out an inspection of Magnox's gaseous waste systems and were in the process of compiling our findings. The inspection included a review of management systems, an observation of plant used for the management of gaseous discharges from the site and discharge sampling arrangements. We did not identify any non-compliances within the management system arrangements during the visual inspection. We provided advice and guidance recommending a review of procedures relating to the operation of the ventilation system.

We reviewed the Hinkley Point A monitoring returns for 2022. This included the waste discharges (gaseous and effluent), environmental monitoring programme and

Customer service line **03708 506 506** **Floodline** **03459 88 11 88**

Incident hotline **0800 80 70 60**

pollution inventory returns. Further information is provided in the Discharge report section.

In June we are planning to undertake an Environmental Awareness and Sustainability Leadership inspection. This will include how environmental awareness and sustainability is understood within the workforce, contractors, and supply chain. We are seeking assurance that the leadership team considers and drives environmental culture, protection, and enhancement at all levels of site operation. We will report on initial findings at subsequent SSG meetings.

Tracy Braithwaite is currently on secondment to another post within the Environment Agency. During this secondment Adam Davis will be the lead regulator at Hinkley Point A. Adam is an experienced Nuclear Regulator and is also the lead regulator at the Magnox Winfrith Site. Alister Wintle will continue to provide support as part of his Developing Nuclear Regulator role.

Hinkley Point B

We continue to hold routine meetings with the Environmental Safety Group (ESG), station management and Independent Nuclear Assurance (INA), in addition to relevant external bodies such as the Office for Nuclear Regulation (ONR). These routine interactions allow us to remain informed of any relevant activities and events at the site of regulatory interest during the defueling period.

In our previous report we confirmed that we undertook an inspection on the 13th of February 2023 on Environmental Management, Leadership and Culture at the station but were still compiling our findings. Our inspection focused on reviewing the overall management system and the effectiveness of leadership. We also looked at planned future changes to the station's management system, staff structure and resources to ensure on-going compliance with the stations environmental permits and an effective transfer of the station permits to Magnox Ltd.

Overall, we found that the station had no non-compliances against its environmental permits in terms of the environmental management, leadership, and culture arrangements that we reviewed as part of our inspection. We made a recommendation for the station to review how the process of changing Environmental Specifications (ESPECs¹) might be further strengthened to ensure that changes enacted don't rely as much on the local knowledge of staff. With the

¹ Environmental Specifications (ESPECs) implement parameters or limits on environmental operating plant (Environmental Condition for Operation, ECOs). If an ESPEC is entered certain actions and time limits are set to ensure a return to required operating parameters.

increase in changes required to ESPECs during defueling after a long period of steady operational state, it is thought that this could also prevent any future permit non-compliance issues.

As part of our inspection, we also reviewed the station leadership against our Management and Leadership for the Environment - Generic Developed Principle (MLDPs²) and found that across the inspection they were all met. All the leadership team appeared to take personal responsibility for ensuring environmental protection and were aware of the issues and risks as the fuel is removed and the environmental risk of the station will become more prominent. A strong leadership team will be pivotal to managing the transitions in structure of the next few years to ensure a smooth transfer to Magnox for the station to begin its decommissioning journey.

We also undertook an inspection on the 12-13th of April focusing on the management of aqueous discharges to ensure compliance with environmental permits held by the station. Our inspection included both non-radiological & radiological discharges made to controlled waters. Overall, we found radiological aqueous discharges from the station were well managed and found no non-compliances with the environmental permit. We are still compiling our findings for non-radiological aqueous discharges and will report these in our next SSG report.

As part of the radiological discharge inspection, we identified that the process for permanent isolation and/ or removal of radiological plant needs to be more formalised in the station management system and have set an action to ensure that this is incorporated into the work that the station has already completed on the Management of The Asset (MoTA). There are a lot of changes to plant as the station goes through the defueling process whilst also preparing for site transfer and decommissioning- by formalising arrangements this should help to reduce any risks to the environment.

We also discussed future options for the disposal of radiological aqueous discharges in the decommissioning period and we placed an action on the station to undertake a BAT assessment for options of disposing of future aqueous wastes to help determine the optimised final disposal route.

As part of our inspection, we noted several areas of good practice, which included good collaboration between different teams at the station working in conjunction with the Environmental Support Group (ESG) to ensure aqueous discharges are minimised and the prompt implementation of EA recommendations into management system documentation, so environmental responsibilities are clear.

² [Management and leadership for the environment: generic developed principles - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/management-and-leadership-for-the-environment-generic-developed-principles)

Events and enforcement

Hinkley point A

Magnox notified the Environment Agency on the 22nd May that following an update to their ventilation system they discovered a potential error with maintenance arrangements. We have requested further information. There is no indication that this will result in a breach of their permitted emission limits. We will review Magnox's findings and report back to SSG at subsequent meetings.

Hinkley Point B

We were notified in writing on the 3rd of February that for Quarter 4 2022 milk and herbage samples taken as part of the Environmental Monitoring Program (EMP)- the station would not be able to report the results for Sulphur-35 (S-35), due to the samples not being received by the external laboratory.

We undertook a compliance assessment of the event and found that there had been no non-compliances against the station permit. We found that the station had followed their management system for the dispatch of external samples and had used Best Available Techniques (BAT) by using a tracked courier service.

The station confirmed that they would continue with the quarterly sampling as per their EMP. Subsequent samples have been verified as being received by the external laboratory.

Following the misplaced sample, the station undertook a review of their process for the dispatch of environmental samples to the external laboratory. As a result of their findings the station will include an additional step on the sample dispatch form, for the responsible Accredited Radioactive Waste Engineer (Acc. RWE) to verify within one week that the samples have been received by the external laboratory. This will allow the station to take an additional sample within the relevant reporting quarter, if anything should happen to the original sample. We will follow-up as part of our routine regulation to ensure this improvement is implemented.

We are satisfied that whilst there will be a gap in the S-35 results for the final quarter of 2022, that the HPB EMP BAT review gives a good baseline of the S-35 results in both milk and herbage over a 10-year period. It was also noted in the EMP review that discharges of S-35 have decreased since the End of Generation (EoG). The internal analysis by the station on the samples for Co-60, I-131 and Cs-137 were below the limit of detection and gave no indication of enhanced radioactivity. These

Customer service line

03708 506 506

Floodline

03459 88 11 88

Incident hotline

0800 80 70 60

were routine environmental samples, and their misplacement does not pose a risk to safety or the environment.

Discharge reports

The operators at Hinkley Point A and B are required to report liquid and gaseous discharges to the environment to us on a regular basis. We assess these to check compliance with the site permits. The site discharge reports, and our assessments are placed on the public register.

Hinkley Point A

The effluent and gaseous discharges from Hinkley Point A remain well below permitted limits and trending data indicates stable and predictable discharges. The Environmental Monitoring Programme data was submitted within the required timescales and the review identified no results or trends of concern. This is supported by an Environmental Monitoring Programme inspection completed in August 2022 which found no non-compliances.

Hinkley Point B

The liquid and gaseous discharges from Hinkley Point B were below any notification levels and within permitted limits.

Environmental impact

Nuclear sites are required to carry out a rigorous environmental monitoring programme (EMP) that requires the operator to monitor and assess the impact of their discharges on the environment.

Additionally, the Environment Agencies and Food Standards Agency carry out independent environmental monitoring around nuclear sites. The results of this work are published in our annual Radioactivity in Food and the Environment (RIFE) report (1). We will continue to follow Government guidelines with Safe Systems of Work in place, with the with regards to our monitoring of the environment and foodstuffs. The 2021 RIFE report has now been published here: [RIFE 27 summary: Radioactivity in food and the environment 2021 - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/rife-27-summary-radioactivity-in-food-and-the-environment-2021) and the 2022 report is in preparation.

Further information

Further information on our role in regulating the use of radioactive substances and related activities on nuclear licensed sites can be found on the Environment Agency section ⁽ⁱ⁾ of the GOV.UK website.

GOV.UK website.

The Environment Agency's Lead Regulator for the Hinkley Point A site is Adam Davis, supported by Alister Wintle. The Environment Agency's Lead Regulator for the Hinkley Point B site is Victoria Thomas.

Adam and Victoria are Senior Nuclear Regulators. Alister is a Developing Nuclear Regulator based in the Wessex Area. They are all part of the national Nuclear Regulation Group (South) which is based at the Environment Agency's Wallingford office in Oxfordshire.

The EA's Nuclear Regulators undertake environmental regulation of radioactive substances on nuclear licensed sites in southern England. They work closely with the local Environment Agency teams in those areas as well as external bodies such as the Office for Nuclear Regulation.

Hinkley Point A:

Alister Wintle

E-mail: alister.wintle@environment-agency.gov.uk

Hinkley Point B:

Victoria Thomas

E-mail: victoria.thomas@environment-agency.gov.uk

Address for correspondence:

Nuclear Regulation Group (South)
Environment Agency
Red Kite House
Howbery Park
Wallingford
Oxfordshire OX10 8BD

ⁱ <https://www.gov.uk/monitoring-radioactivity>

ⁱⁱ <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/nuclear-regulation-in-the-environment-agency>

Hinkley SSG Chairs report, June 2023.

I have attend a number of meetings along with the vice chair, both virtual and in person, mainly National SSG chairs meeting & Magnox related the topics covered included:- briefing on Government consultation and Magnox rebranding. I also recently attended the Oldbury & Berkley SSG to understand the way they operated.

Government consultation – UK policy proposals for managing radioactive substances and nuclear decommissioning.

The vice chair and I felt it important to seek members feelings for how we responded to this important Government consultation, I sent a number of emails seeking your thoughts, when the Vice chair and I met in May to discuss our next meeting we covered this topic, we felt that due to the lack of interest in a special meeting, that one would not be required, we also looked at the modest responses we had received to the government questions, there was no clear consensus in the 2 responses that covered the questions and one comment we received so, as such, could not generate a Hinkley SSG response to the consultation, we did take a decision to respond individually to the questions, this was done.

Magnox rebranding.

Magnox are undertaking a rebranding and we were involved in a working session around this, the SSG family is growing as other stations come on board, Magnox wants to rebrand to take the future into consideration, the rebranding involved staff and SSG's, our inputs were fed back to the board, I am sure that Bill Hamilton will feedback on this. We will be able to discuss this at our meeting as Bill will be updating us on the most recent position.

Youth engagement.

I have been working on finding ways for young people to feed into both SSG and Nuclear issues, working with Magnox and site staff we hope to find a way to move this forward. We held an explorative meeting with Somerset council participation team.

SSG meeting frequency.

I was approached by a number of officers to seek thoughts on frequency of our meetings, now that there is no longer generation taking place on our sites, the amount of information would be reduced, it was suggested we move from 3 to 2 meetings per year, both sites, NDA and Magnox are supportive of this, if members did not object it is suggested going forward that we meet the last Friday of January and June, we would formalise this at the January 2024 meeting as part of our AGM.

SSG meetings and Plenary session.

I had hoped to revise our meeting format slightly, you will have noted the early release of reports and presentations, as such I have asked that reports be received and circulated 2 weeks before our meetings, giving members time to fully read the reports and members be able to raise (by email) any questions up to 2 days prior to meetings, this will allow officers to research and respond formally, responding and highlighting just important points during their presentations. I hope that at our next meeting, members may benefit from a topic specific information session with Q&A at the meeting, in the form of a Plenary, where 3 topic experts would have 5 mins each to state their position or information, then members would have time to question those presenters, my first session for the next meeting would be:- '**AGR Transition, from generation to decommissioning.**'

I would welcome thoughts and feedback on the new format, along with any topics that members or officer may wish us to consider for future meetings.

SSG membership.

The Vice chair and I are once again going to try and reach out to potential members, we will use the contact details provided along with the revised Somerset Council parish/town listing to try and build our reach, it is also an opportunity to try and lower our average age of members, building our succession planning, I wanted to remind you that other members of your groups or organisations are welcome to join us at our meetings.

I thank you for your participation and look forward to seeing you at our next meeting.

Leigh Redman and Mervyn Brown
Hinkley SSG chair and Vice Chair.