



DUNGENESS A SITE AND B POWER STATION
SITE STAKEHOLDER GROUP MEETING
THURSDAY 12 OCTOBER 2023
AT 1000 HRS, REFRESHMENTS AVAILABLE FROM 0930 HRS
VENUE: LYDD GOLF COURSE, ROMNEY ROAD,
ROMNEY MARSH, TN29 9PX

AGENDA

- INTRODUCTION
- APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE
- TO APPROVE THE MINUTES
- MATTERS ARISING
- CORRESPONDENCE
- CHAIRMANS REPORT
- DUNGENESS A's CLOSURE DIRECTOR'S REPORT – IAN CUTHBERT,
SITE DIRECTOR
- DUNGENESS B's STATION DIRECTOR'S REPORT – GAVIN LANCASTER,
STATION DIRECTOR
- ONR REPORT FOR DUNGENESS A – JOHN ROGERS, ONR INSPECTOR
- ONR REPORT FOR DUNGENESS B – JASON CROOK, ONR INSPECTOR
- ENVIRONMENTAL UPDATE FOR DUNGENESS A AND DUNGENESS B –
PHIL FAHEY, EA INSPECTOR, DUN A, EDDIE OSONDU, EA INSPECTOR, DUN B
- NDA UPDATE – SIMON NAPPER, NDA
- MAGNOX UPDATE – BILL HAMILTON, DIRECTOR OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS
- PROPOSED CHANGE TO SOCIO ECONOMIC SUPPORT AREA – Bill Hamilton
- ANY OTHER BUSINESS
- DATE AND TIME OF NEXT MEETING – TBC 2024



**MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING OF THE
DUNGENESS SITE STAKEHOLDER GROUP (SSG)
HELD AT
WELLNESS CENTRE (VISITOR CENTRE)
DUNGENESS B POWER STATION
ON THURSDAY 22ND JUNE 2023 at 14:00**

IN ATTENDANCE

Mr G Finn	—	<i>SSG Chair</i>
Mr D Godfrey	—	<i>SSG Vice Chair</i>
Ms R Cavanagh	—	EDF
Mr G Lancaster	—	Site Director, Dungeness B
Mr T Yemm	—	Transfer of Deconstruction Manager, Dungeness B
Mr M Pardo	—	Communication, EDF
Ms K Berry	—	Technical & Safety Support Manager, Dungeness B
Mr I Cuthbert	—	Magnox Site Director, Dungeness A
Mr J Rodgers	—	Office for Nuclear Regulation Inspector, Dungeness A
Mr J Crook	—	Office for Nuclear Regulation Inspector, Dungeness B
Ms L Marsh	—	Folkestone & Hythe District and RMP
Mr B Hamilton	—	Stakeholder Relations, Magnox
Mr S Napper	—	Nuclear Decommissioning Authority
Mr S Bashford	—	Union Staff Rep, Dungeness A&B
Mr P Fahey	—	Environment Agency Inspector, Dungeness A
Ms K White	—	Environment Agency Inspector, Dungeness B
Mr P Coe	—	Deputy Mayor, New Romney Town Council
Cllr T Hills	—	Kent County Council
Cllr A Martin	—	Folkestone & Hythe District Councillor
Cllr M Sweeney	—	Lydd Town Council
Mr M Pledger	—	Magnox Account Manager, Jacobs
Ms C Bruce	—	Resident
Mr H Findlay	—	Resident

CHAIR'S OPENING COMMENTS

3680 Chair welcomed attendees and gave details of what to do if any site alarms sounded, attendees introduced themselves.

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

3681 Apologies for absence were received from:

- Cllr Dave Wimble – New Romney Town Council
- Cllr Simon McGurk – Rother District Council
- Cllr Tony May – Lydd Town Council
- Kenneth Obbard – Protected Sites Lead Advisor – Kent
- Jo Cowdrey – Creative Folkstone/Dungeness Resident
- Cath Pritchard – Magnox Secretariat & Comms Officer

2. APPOINTMENT OF OFFICERS

3682 There were no appointments as the Chair and Vice Chair's term were not complete and there were no objections.

3. CONFLICTS OF INTEREST

3683 Tony Hills, Kent County Council was also a member of the Inshore Fisheries Conservation Authority (IFCA).

3684 Cllr Martin Sweeney was employed as a contractor on the Dungeness A site.

3685 Chair stated that the list of members would be reviewed to determine which voting organisation had attending meetings and which would want to retain their positions. The secretariat would be consulted.

3686 Chair was a retired EDF employee and still did consultancy work for EDF. He was an independent member of the Hinkley Point C construction site Nuclear Safety Committee, the Sizewell C Nuclear Safety Committee and EDF cyclife Nuclear Safety Committee. All of these had been checked and there was no conflict. He also worked for the World Association of Nuclear Operators (WANO).

3687 Claire Bruce was employed by the Health and Safety Executive but was not present in that capacity and was about to retire.

4. AGREE CONSTITUTION

3688 Chair proposed sanctioning no changes to the constitution. Cllr Peter Coe seconded the proposal.

5. TO APPROVE THE MINUTES

3689 The minutes of the meeting on March 2023 were accepted as a true reflection. Phil Fahey apologised for no member of the EA being present.

6. MATTERS ARISING

- 3690 Gavin Lancaster would provide a strategy update, which would be done at this meeting.

7. CORRESPONDENCE

- 3691 Chair noted the following correspondence received:

- Department of Energy briefing on the decommissioning and Waste Policy Consultation, sent on behalf of John McNamara.
- Email from Ashford council that Councillor Mick Burgess would be standing down. Chair had responded thanking him for his involvement in the SSG. A replacement had not been appointed. Tony Hills interpreted from the email that Mick Burgess could be interested in continuing working with the SSG, which could be suggested to the Council.
- Email from Sussex Council that Councillor Robert Simmons had passed away. A replacement would be appointed.

- 3692 Chair noted the following correspondence sent out:

- Department of Energy briefing on the decommissioning and Waste Policy Consultation, sent on behalf of John McNamara.
- Comments on the Government consultation on decommissioning and waste management – sent by Chair.
- EDF B Site letter on start of defueling Dungeness B reactor 21.
- NDA Business Plan for 2023 to 2026.

8. CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

- 3693 Chair had attended a workshop facilitated by the NDA, with presenters from the Department for Energy Security and Net Zero, discussing the consultation paperwork sent out and the process for providing views.
- 3694 Magnox would be rebranding, and workshops were being held, which Chair and Vice Chair had attended, on what the rebranding would mean and what would be effective locally. Bill Hamilton would keep the SSG updated.

9. DUNGENESS A'S CLOSURE DIRECTOR'S REPORT – IAN CUTHBERT, SITE DIRECTOR

- 3695 Ian Cuthbert reported no accidents or injuries since the last SSG meeting. There had been an ONR enforcement letter regarding traffic management in relation to the new build. The interaction between materials transport and staff had not been to the standard expected. This had been addressed and ONR would be revisiting in July.
- 3696 Bird netting had been added to many of the tops of buildings in anticipation of demolition work. The gulls had moved to the tops of the reactor buildings, where they can nest safely.
- 3697 A warning letter was issued by the EA after strong winds removed cladding from reactor two. There was an internal investigation, and the report was sent to the EA. Based on this and other events, the EA had sent a warning letter and actions had been given to staff to correct the situation.

- 3698 Significant work was going into sustainability and digitalising paperwork. The Wi-Fi coverage was being extended across the site with work starting on 26 June, including expanding to the waste areas, to allow staff to use electronic devices rather than paper forms. Dungeness had taken part in No Mow May, though this would have to be rectified for the CEO and Chairman visit. The Central Sustainability Team, Safety Team and Environment Team had held a day out on the estate with the EA, to explain the ongoing work, which was well received. There was engagement with local schools through the STEM programme. There had been apprentice recruiting. Candidates were going through the assessment centre and some would join in September 2023.
- 3699 On the boiler down project, all water culverts had been sealed. Filling had started of the steam tunnels and cable tunnels. The turbine hall basement would be filled during the summer, with the contract being awarded on 26 June. This would create a laydown area for the demolition of the boilers and a crane site. Facilities in the way had been demolished, with three more planned. A new laboratory building would be installed on 29 June, to allow the current laboratory to be demolished and allow access to the south of the site. On enabling works, waste facilities were being demolished and reconstructed. The cladding on the first two buildings was close to completion. A large amount of shingle had been removed to allow the building. There had been complaints about noise from breaking concrete. Part of building the new laboratory also required removing a blast wall.
- 3700 On waste projects, in the blower hall were three DCIC units full of resin, from the pathfinder trials, which would be transferred into MOSAIK units to be stored at Bradwell by the end of July. Equipment would then be transferred to the new building.
- 3701 A map was presented of the new builds plan. A film would be made available. The programme delivery manager would attend the next SSG to discuss the boiler programme and the effects in the next five years.

ACTION: Programme delivery manager to attend the next SSG.

- 3702 The Magnox socio-economic funding projects for 2022/23 were presented. Cllr Alan Martin raised that speed limit signs for Ivychurch had been declined. Linda Marsh gave thanks for the STEM contribution to local schools.
- 3703 Chair raised that there had been requests, including from a councillor, for communications to local residents when the works were expected to make noise. Ian Cuthbert apologised for the noise. The residents had been brought to the site to explain the noise. He updated them on the situation but would not necessarily be able to provide precise dates. Tony Hills recommended using social media for providing updates, as flexible way to communicate. Ian Cuthbert would work with the communications team and Bill Hamilton. Cllr Alan Martin recommended having two-way communication for any questions or concerns. Claire Bruce said that residents accepted the noise but would like assurance of the hours. Ian Cuthbert confirmed the programmes were clear not to work at weekends or after 18.00.

ACTION: Ian Cuthbert and Bill Hamilton to discuss communications with residents.

- 3704 Cllr Alan Martin noted Claire Bruce previously saying the demolition could bring new people to the area. He asked whether there would be an impact on how to deal with those visitors. Ian Cuthbert stated attractive works such as the crane were two years away. However, there would likely be media coverage and interest. There had been discussions of creating a viewing gallery for safety. The boiler tenders were expected back in October or November, which would give a better idea of the schedule.

10. DUNGENESS B's STATION DIRECTOR'S REPORT – GAVIN LANCASTER, STATION DIRECTOR

- 3705 Gavin Lancaster noted the station's history and that a periodic safety review had been carried out to assess whether its operation could be extended. It had been extended to 2028. In 2018, environmental corrosion had been discovered under the plant, which had required an extended shut-down, costing around £300 million to recover from and rebuild the pipework. The site was now in good condition, which needed to be maintained, for public and regulatory confidence. Following the end of generation decision in 2021, the process was estimated to take two years, which had been achieved with commencement of defueling on 26 May.
- 3706 In each reactor, there are more than 400 fuel assemblies which need to be removed. For safety, each fuel assembly is being replaced by an empty fuel assemblies. The defueling must be done warm unlike other reactors, because of the metal conditions within it. This incurs electricity costs, which needed to be optimised, and a lot of equipment was needed. The site would be able to use flask windows previously earmarked for Hartlepool and Heysham 1. In March EDF had extended these station's lifetimes, which means that Dungeness B can make use of the flask slots at Sellafield those sites had been due to use in 2024- 2026.
- 3707 There was some uncertainty across the workplace around the defueling timeline, so trust needed to be rebuilt. Defueling would take around five years, which would require the same workforce and contract partner resources. Investment in the site would continue, to maintain material conditions and safety principles. In 2028/29 the site would transfer to the NDA. Proposed milestones were the defueling, decommission and deconstruction, safe store construction, dismantling and greenfield by 2119. However, beyond the transfer to the NDA, EDF would not be involved.
- 3708 Gavin Lancaster's role was to keep the site safe, keep the workforce engaged and motivated, to ensure value for money, and to prepare the site for transfer to the NDA. A further 10 staff had recently been justified, bringing the B site to 534 full-time and around 270 contract partners.
- 3709 On the recent significant event involving a crush injury due to an unsecured valve, the ONR investigation was continuing but they had issued an improvement notice under the enforcement model. This was to ensure in the documentation that the plant cannot be left in an unsafe condition, to update the training materials and ensure the workforce were trained on how the valve operates. A response had been sent to the ONR, with the documentation updates and training.
- 3710 The buildings and facilities continue to be upgraded as part of investment in infrastructure for staff.
- 3711 There was currently traffic movement as the sewage treatment plant was going through its commissioning period. In the meantime, waste was being managed through a subcontractor.
- 3712 The 10 recruits mentioned earlier were in the technical engineering and operations divisions. For the next two years, there would be four apprentices per year. There was ongoing consideration of whether to increase the year in industry offering. The pinch point was around electrical and C&I resources.
- 3713 ONR-observed emergency and security exercises had been carried out, which showed adequate arrangements in place.

- 3714 Tony Hills raised residents' concerns about speeding of vehicles on the site. Gavin Lancaster reported that a license plate recognition camera had been installed on the approach road.

11. ONR REPORT FOR DUNGENESS A – JOHN ROGERS, ONR INSPECTOR

- 3715 In relation to the enforcement letter, John Rogers had visited the site with a health and safety inspector to look at control and supervision of the construction and demolition projects under license condition 26 and also the construction design and management regulation. Overall, the inspection had been rated amber, with shortcomings around the separation of pedestrians and vehicles. The letter had therefore been sent. From more recent site visits it appeared that physical segregation and behaviour had improved, which would be inspected again in two weeks.
- 3716 The primary reason for the inspection had been the CDM regulations. Magnox had done reasonably well at controlling construction projects, but as the client and principal designer. ONR had identified shortcomings at Dungeness A and at other Magnox sites. Consequently, there had been a high-level meeting on 21 June between the superintendent inspector for decommissioning sites, the Magnox chief executive and Magnox senior staff to discuss a way forward.
- 3717 There was also interest in the crane for the demolition, but there were regulatory responsibilities in large jobs. There were few nuclear safety concerns, but it would not be good for the site or UK nuclear industry if there were an incident when moving the boilers. An engineering substantiation report had been called, in for assessment to determine if the ONR were satisfied with Magnox's subcontractor's view of the siting of the crane site. This was a regulatory hold point on the project.
- 3718 A follow-up waste management inspection had been carried out. The aging management issues with the low-level active waste plant had been dealt with in the short-term, however more extensive repairs have been captured in the site's asset management plan. The inspection was rated green, with significant improvements. One stockpile had been discussed with staff in terms of assessment of radiological waste. Magnox provided evidence that a long-awaited radiological assessment had been completed such that the stockpile would now be despatched from site.
- 3719 There was an underlying concern based on seeing the site, talking to staff, the hand injury in 2022 and poor-quality investigation report, and other minor accidents. The safety culture and some behaviours were not where they needed to be. The nominate site inspector has arranged for a team inspection for the site which would start on 26 June to determine the underlying causes and make recommendations for improvement.
- 3720 The industry issues with pond skips were starting to be resolved, with good joint working within Magnox, though more problems had been found at Sizewell, which would likely affect other sites. A specialist radiological protection inspector would be visiting the site and assessing Magnox's proposals.

12. ONR REPORT FOR DUNGENESS B – JASON CROOK, ONR INSPECTOR

- 3721 Jason Crook reported two improvement notices had been issued to Trillium Flow Services and EDF in relation to the event of a worker receiving a crush injury. EDF

were required to review their adequacy and maintenance instructions for the hazards and risks associated with the specific task in relation to the risk assessment. There were also two enforcement letters in relation to training. ONR were pleased with EDF's proactive engagement to resolve the improvement notices. The improvement notices and enforcement letters had been closed.

- 3722 The focus since the last SSG had been routine compliance inspections and ensuring that Dungeness B was appropriately preparing to commence defueling, including assessing the safety case and considering human factors. The station had managed its readiness systematically with good control, while maintaining the standards of an operational station.
- 3723 The Level 1 exercise had been an adequate demonstration of the evolution of hazard and risk. Not every year.
- 3724 The focus going forward was maintaining oversight of the defueling and the subsequent safety cases.

13. ENVIRONMENTAL UPDATE FOR DUNGENESS A AND DUNGENESS B – PHIL FAHEY, EA INSPECTOR, DUN A, EDDIE OSONDU, EA INSPECTOR, DUN B

- 3725 Phil Fahey raised the warning letter issued based on the environmental events at Dungeness over the last year. After Storm Eunice, there had been a root cause investigation, which had highlighted asset management issues. The warning letter was for an event in the Magnox dissolution plant and subsequent asset management issues. There had been a blockage of water in the reactor voids, which had led to a small overflow into the surface water drains. This was the 3rd event that had occurred at site in the last year that involved the Environment Agency taking enforcement action against Magnox at Dungeness A. Following 2 instances of advice and guidance we decided to issue a warning letter for the MXD plant event. All staff need to improve environmental awareness at site.
- 3726 Positive points included the drop-in session, which had received a good response onsite and raised awareness. On the asset management status, there were regular meetings.
- 3727 Kezia White introduced herself. She was still familiarising herself with the site but was assisting with the environmental leadership and culture inspection from June 2023.

14. NDA UPDATE – SIMON NAPPER, NDA

- 3728 Simon Napper noted that the dedicated minister for nuclear was now Andrew Bowie MP. Great British Nuclear (GBN) had been launched and the CEO was Gwen Parry-Jones, formerly CEO of Magnox. GBN's first priority was to identify the preferred technologies for SMRs by the end of the year.
- 3729 The 2023 stakeholder summit would be held online. From the 2022 stakeholder survey, there was curiosity about how the challenges of decommissioning were solved. Regional events were therefore being held in partnership with universities on innovation and research.
- 3730 Decommissioning was a global dimension, so the NDA does a lot of work with other countries. The UK would be hosting a tri-lateral with leaders in decommissioning from the US and Canada. The International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) and others value the British experience of stakeholder groups.

- 3731 The Energy Act includes an obligation for NDA and Magnox to help maintain sustainable communities where sites were. They were funding projects such as a spaceport near Dounreay, which would generate jobs. NDA would use this to leverage other investment.
- 3732 There was significant ongoing innovation in robotics, such as Spot the dog, for environments not habitable by humans. These reduced risk, and increased efficiency and value for money.
- 3733 Tony Hills stated that the community was behind decommissioning the Dungeness site and reusing it. However, they would suffer a lot during the long process. Roads were already in a poor state and there was no money for repairs, so funding was needed to support vehicles coming onsite for decommissioning works. The main pinch points were the slip road surface by the railway station in Lydd and Hammonds Corner, which was proposed to be turned into a roundabout. Simon Napper recommended approaching Magnox on this first. Bill Hamilton would address this in his update.

15. MAGNOX UPDATE – BILL HAMILTON, DIRECTOR OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

- 3734 Bill Hamilton reported that from 1 April the Dounreay site had joined Magnox, bringing the family to 13 sites. Dounreay would retain its own management structure and identity in the short term. Rob Fletcher had stepped in as Magnox CEO temporarily for nine months. Head-hunters had been appointed to find suitable candidates for the permanent position.
- 3735 Of the 13 sites, only nine were official Magnox sites. As the AGRs come over, there would be 10 sites not named as Magnox. A programme had been launched to create a new brand, with a new name and logo, which would be made public in October and discussed at the next SSG.
- 3736 The meeting of SSG chairs was on 21 June, to look at the Big Conversation campaign to engage communities on their opinions, awareness and ideas for after decommissioning.
- 3737 On socio-economics, there needed to be consideration of where to spend, such as on road infrastructure. The NDA were reviewing the terms of reference for this. Bill Hamilton acknowledged the feedback on the roads around Dungeness. He would speak to his counterpart at the NDA about a way forward. Magnox had spent £100,000 below the budget in 2022, mainly due to Covid, which sadly could not be used in 2023. However, £1.02 million had been committed for 2023. There was also a ring-fenced fund of £6,000 for each site for small projects. Bids would be accepted for larger schemes, for 2024 year.

ACTION: Bill Hamilton to consult with the NDA on road maintenance.

- 3738 In relation to safety, Magnox computers had a safety message and there was an ongoing permanent safety campaign, but these were not working well enough. A disruptive advertising campaign on safety would be launched soon in three phases, with striking posts and paintings. The slogans for each phase were: 'I am not a tool', with a picture of fingers in a cigar box; 'I am not a spanner,' with fingers making up a spanner; and 'I am not a wedge', with a human hand crushed under a container.
- 3739 Tony Hills queried how many ex-employees from the station live in the area, who could also benefit from the works. Bill Hamilton confirmed it was being considered how to benefit the local communities. A recent workshop at Trawsfynydd had identified community priorities as community transport, training and jobs, and the

environment. Contractors had also signed up in their contracts to deliver social value in their, which could be maximised. A company, Neighbourly, had been brought in to create an online platform for staff to find organisations to support through volunteering. This platform would be able to capture the local work Magnox does.

- 3740 Cllr Alan Martin had recently been through the Magnox grant process for a community project, but the process had not felt engaging. Chasing was needed for a response and the reply had not given an explanation for declining the application without pushing. Bill Hamilton stated that there should be a new, simpler system created soon.

ACTION: Bill Hamilton and Cllr Alan Martin to discuss the grant for signs for the speed limit change. Bill Hamilton to report on how the system was changing.

- 3741 Phil Fahey raised that the GRR's technical guidance includes a requirement for station operators to speak to their community about the expected end state of a site. There should be further engagement, especially with Dungeness A producing waste management plan and site wide environmental safety case will be produced by the end of 2023. Bill Hamilton confirmed there were community engagement programmes being set up at multiple sites. The setup date for Dungeness was yet to be determined. David Godfrey stated that the SSG had been asked to provide names of all individuals and organisation that should be involved in that conversation.

16. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

- 3742 Cllr Martin Sweeney asked whether there was sufficient accommodation in the local area for new contractors or staff coming to Dungeness B. Gavin Lancaster said that something would need to be done. There was engagement with contractors, who were starting to struggle. Peaks in the population such as summer holidays would be avoided where possible, but another plan was needed.
- 3743 Matthew Pardo reported that Dungeness B were trying to organise an event for 7 July, primarily because of the turnover of Folkestone & Hythe District Council, to familiarise new councillors with the site. Linda Marsh and Tony Hills would be attending to promote the potential for new nuclear at Dungeness and the work undertaken so far.
- 3744 The Chair thanked all present for their attendance. There being no other business, the meeting was closed.

Next Meeting dates: Thursday 12 October 2023.



October 2023
Dungeness Site Stakeholder Group – EDF report

Station Director's Message – October 2023

In May, as I reported at the previous meeting, we began the process of defueling Dungeness B. Our teams were ready, we had detailed plans and we'd completed a suite of preparatory works in order to tackle the challenges ahead.

However it was not long into our operations that we ran into complications and had to halt the programme. I want to stress that this was not unexpected. As ready as we could be, we always knew we were using our plant in a way it had never been worked before, ie with such a focus on removing fuel. We knew that because we were working in this way it was entirely plausible that challenges would emerge. And so far we have experienced issues with winches in the fuelling machine and then in management of our reactor chemistry.

What has been inspiring has been to see our teams rise to those challenges. The folks here at Dungeness B have been working hand-in-hand with technical colleagues in Gloucester and colleagues at EDF's other defueling sites, to navigate a path through these issues. We have not yet resolved them all, but once again we're making encouraging progress.

Updates

Onsite works

- Work to remove fuel assemblies from the reactors commenced at the end of May. As we removed assemblies we replaced them with empty fuel assemblies, in order to avoid potential unintended damage to the reactor. But in June we halted our defueling operations when we identified issues with the fuelling machine winches tripping. Although we were conscious that we had a defueling timetable to follow, we took the responsible decision to pause our defueling operations.
- By mid-July we were poised to resume defueling operations when we identified issues with our reactor chemistry and with boiler valves.
- As this work began in late July the site also undertook a fuel route outage, in which we planned more than 240 piece of work on our fuelling machine and areas it serves.
- By early September we had completed work on the boiler valves and the fuel route outage. Our understanding of issues with our reactor chemistry had also improved to the point where we were able to resume defueling and replacing removed fuel with our specially constructed new fuel assemblies.
- When we had finished removal of these first assemblies it meant that we had removed all 21 unused fuel stringers, meaning they could be sent to fuel assembly company Springfields and be repurposed for use elsewhere in the UK AGR fleet.

Decommissioning preparations

- Over recent months our teams have started work on feasibility studies to quantify waste expected onsite once we have completed defueling. This work will inform our plans for waste handling over the coming years.
- Work also continues on our plan for decommissioning, under the Environmental Impact Assessment for Decommissioning Regulations. We are expecting to run public consultation on the plans during 2025, once fully developed.

Staff update

- Since the start of 2023 I've been meeting teams to ensure everyone is firmly aligned with the station's priorities. There have been conversations with every member of our workforce about our new mission.
- We have appointed a new HR manager at site – a role crucial for ensuring our future. The new recruit will join the management team this autumn.

Beach feeding

- Variable weather coupled with storm surges throughout 2023 means that this year there has been significant movements of shingle from the bund in front of the station. This means that our beach feeding programme this year needs to be substantial. Our teams have requested permission to move 30,000m³ of shingle, which is about the amount we need in larger feeding years, from Natural England. Whatever quantity the agency grants us to move works will begin in October and run, provisionally, through to next March. We will ensure our contractors follow previously agreed operating times.

Environmental events

- There have been no top tier environmental safety events since the last meeting.

Safety

- Over recent months significant works have been taking place onsite to remove older buildings and provide more modern facilities for teams working onsite. During the course of these works there have been a number of staff onsite unfamiliar with hazards associated with working on a nuclear site. Because of this we have seen a small increase in low level health and safety incidents and near misses. We are now monitoring teams more closely and have held a number of specific safety events to directly address these behaviours.
- And in September the site hosted the company's Inspector General for Nuclear Safety and Radioprotection (IGNSR) team for an inspection. These visits, which only happen every few years, give the company the opportunity to gauge nuclear safety and security across a variety of plants and projects and then report back on the group wide picture to the company's executive team. The IGNSR team last visited Dungeness during the 2018-21 outage so this time saw a dramatically different site.

Dungeness' future

- Over the course of the summer, Dungeness B has hosted a number of events, and visitors, considering the future potential of the area for new nuclear. Representatives of Folkestone and Hythe District Council, Kent County Council, The University of Kent and this SSG came along to Dungeness B in July to hear about exploratory council work for new nuclear.
- Weeks later the UK's first Nuclear Minister Andrew Bowie paid a special visit to Dungeness B. He was given a detailed tour of the plant and saw first hand the progress we have made on defueling the station.



- Afterwards the Minister met local councillors and other representatives on a walking tour of the Estate and then heard about the council's case for new nuclear at Dungeness.
- Work by council officials, at both the District and County levels, continues.

Gavin Lancaster
Station Director
October 2023



Office for
Nuclear Regulation

ONR Site Report

Magnox Ltd – Dungeness A

ONR Site Report

Magnox Ltd - Dungeness A

Report for period: 1 April – 30 June 2023

Authored by: ONR Nominated Site Inspector

Approved by: ONR Superintending Inspector – SDFW Division

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

Site inspectors from ONR usually attend Dungeness 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 made inspections on the following dates during the report period 1 April – 30 June 2023:

14 June 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 Dungeness A site covered the following:

- Emergency arrangements

This inspection, which was rated "Green" under the ONR Inspection Rating Guide, was a follow-up inspection of the licensee's implementation of their emergency arrangements and involved the observation of a Magnox Ltd training exercise. Generally the site inspector was satisfied that the licensee gave an adequate demonstration of its ability to manage an accident on site, however the improvements in command and control of such an accident being sought by ONR from the previous demonstration exercise were not seen. ONR is aware from its

inspections at other Magnox Ltd licensed nuclear sites that this shortfall has been observed elsewhere, therefore ONR is to raise this as a company issue.

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

During the period the ONR site inspector attended the SSG meeting on the 22 June.

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.

Magnox Ltd reported an incident to ONR during the reporting period involving the transport of a sample of radioactive material which had not been correctly categorised as per the requirements for Class 7 goods under the Carriage of Dangerous Goods Act 2009. ONR are still considering the significance of this incident.

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.

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

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Office for
Nuclear Regulation

ONR Site Report

EDF Energy – Dungeness B

ONR Site Report

EDF Energy - Dungeness B

Report for period: 01 April – 30 June 2023

Authored by: J Crook, Principal Inspector

Approved by: M Webb, Superintending Inspector

Issue No.: 1

Publication Date: Aug-23

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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 Dungeness site stakeholder group and are also available on the ONR website (<http://www.onr.org.uk/lrc/>).

Site inspectors from ONR usually attend Dungeness 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 made inspections on the following dates during the report period 01 April – 30 June 2023:

25 April

03 – 04 May

23 – 24 May

21 June

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 Dungeness B covered the following:

- examination, maintenance, inspection and testing;
- management of operations including control and supervision;
- staff training, qualifications and experience;

- emergency preparedness;
- decommissioning;
- quality assurance and records;
- 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.

During the period ONR observed Dungeness B's annual level 1 exercise. ONR judged that the Dungeness B was able to adequately demonstrate that it can respond to incident or emergency on the site.

2.2. Other Work

The site inspector attended the Dungeness site stakeholder group in June, to give an overview of ONR's regulatory activities and provide an opportunity for members of the public to ask questions related to ONR's 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.

The site inspector met regularly with the site-based Independent Nuclear Assurance (INA) team to ensure the internal regulator function remains effective and verifying information provided by the station.

During this reporting period the site inspector undertook a number of intelligence gathering activities and plant visits including engagement with members of the site's senior leadership team.

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.

On Friday 26th May Dungeness B commenced defueling of its reactors, which represents a significant milestone in the stations progress towards safe defueling of the Dungeness B reactors.

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.

Reports detailing the above regulatory decisions can be found on the ONR website at <http://www.onr.org.uk/pars/>.

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

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Environment Agency Report to the Dungeness Site Stakeholder Group

September 2023

Introduction

This report covers our regulation of Dungeness A and B Sites and related environmental matters for the period June 2023 to mid-September 2023.

The Environment Agency's priority is to protect people and the environment. We have set out how we will do this across the many areas we regulate, and on which we provide advice and guidance. For example, flood defence, flood warning, environmental sampling, permitting, angling and fisheries, waterways management and billing. Please see our page on GOV.UK (www.gov.uk/government/organisations/environment-agency).

Radioactive Substances Regulation

We regulate radioactive waste disposals through environmental permits that contain limits and conditions aimed at minimising wastes and protecting the environment. We check compliance with the permit by undertaking regular inspections. These are recorded on Radioactive Substances Compliance Assessment Reports (RASCARs) which detail our inspections and any non-compliance(s) found.

On 30th and 31st August 2023, we visited Dungeness A to perform an inspection on various decommissioning projects. This included the "waste authority review" for the "boilers down" project and the GRR (Management of radioactive waste from decommissioning of nuclear sites: Guidance on Requirements for Release from Radioactive Substances Regulation, (<https://www.sepa.org.uk/media/365893/2018-07-17-grr-publication-v1-0.pdf>)).

On 6th June 2023, we undertook an Environmental Leadership inspection at Dungeness B (DNB), during which we assessed senior leadership oversight of environmental management and safety.

We also maintain regular contact with the sites by remote means in addition to formal correspondence and site visits.

Site Regulation

Dungeness A

We are in regular contact, several times during the month with Senior Managers at Dungeness A to ensure that we are kept in touch with the progress on decommissioning, regulatory actions, and recommendations and any emerging issues at the site.

Inspections:

During our August 2023 inspection, we discussed with the Operator "the waste authority review" for the "boilers' down" project and how the waste generated will be managed in an integrated way. It is early days for the project, and we will continue further discussions with

the Operator. We also discussed the GRR with the Operator and were reassured that the required waste management plan and site wide environment safety case will be completed by the required date of end of 2023. Other discussions at site included aqueous waste, disposal of pond skips and various other ongoing projects at site.

Environmental awareness and reduction in environmental incidents:

Following several non-compliances reported previously to the SSG and other environmental events we have increased our engagement with the Operator. We now have more frequent calls with the Operator to discuss issues at site and any ongoing environmental events.

In August 2023 we sent 2 regulatory letters to the Operator. The first was to outline our regulatory expectations from the Operator on several projects. This included aqueous waste disposal, pond skips disposal and some aspects of the GRR. We also asked for a meeting to discuss awareness of staff at site to minimise further environmental events and compliance issues in the future. We asked the Operator to investigate what they can do as a site to reduce these issues. The events seen so far are minor but as well as a reduction in frequency we do not want any that will escalate to become more major events. The Operator has agreed to work on a plan and we will liaise and assist them going forward. Initial thoughts are that the Operator will focus on independent verification and controls/supervision by looking at issues including human performance training, raising environmental awareness, and updating procedures.

The second letter was to assist the Operator in performing a more holistic best available techniques (BAT) assessment on the disposal of reactor void aqueous waste. This waste contains small amounts of radioactivity. The Operator has previously proposed that it is disposed of to surface water drains. We are still to be convinced that this is an optimised disposal route as required by the site environmental permits. We outlined our expectations for any BAT assessment following previous engagement with the Operator on this. The void water BAT assessment will also tie in with the Operator's' BAT assessment incorporating the holistic appraisal of aqueous waste disposal at site. We will continue our discussions with the Operator and assist them as required.

We are aiming to visit Dungeness A the day before the SSG meeting to further discuss environmental awareness and issues raised in this report.

Dungeness B

We have weekly calls with Environmental Safety Group at DNB to ensure we are kept up to date with the site activities and maintain effective communication with the site. These are currently providing us with up-to-date information on the sites progress with defueling.

Inspections:

On the 6th of June 2023, we conducted an Environmental Leadership inspection at DNB. The aims of the inspection were to assess the level of senior leadership oversight of environmental management and the adequacy of arrangements for implementing/managing 'organisational learning' and 'environmental capability'. We did not identify any permit non-compliances during the inspection. However, we identified an area for improvement and made the following recommendation:

- i. in the future, ensure you (DNB) document the justification for not carrying out an activity or operation specified in the written management system. The justification

may outline alternative arrangements for maintaining an equivalent level of control (in place of the activity or operation not carried out) to assure compliance with the environmental permit.

Environmental Safety Group (ESG) provided a timely response to the recommendation in August 2023. ESG confirmed the station will raise Condition Reports (CRs) when there is a gap in adherence to the management system. This will allow formal logging/tracking of issues, impacts and alternative arrangements via internal governance processes.

Events and Enforcement

Dungeness A

Nothing to report.

Dungeness B

We were informed on the 29th June that on the 23rd June a leak was detected on the discharge line of a hydrazine dosing tank. This leak occurred on the tank side of the isolation valve, so DNB were not able to hold the contents within the dosing tank and the decision was taken to drain the tank to the Water Treatment Plant Effluent Tank, which discharges to the sea via the Syphon recovery. We are supporting our local Environment Agency area colleagues to understand the circumstance around this event and the potential impacts from the unplanned discharge. DNB have provided us with their investigation report which we are using to ensure we respond appropriately to this event.

Annual Review of Safety and Environment

Nothing to report.

Environmental Permitting

Dungeness A

We are expecting an application from the Operator for a minor variation to the radioactive substances permit. This will be to add various gaseous waste disposal routes for new facilities being built at site. These facilities will assist in further decommissioning of the site around the “boilers’ down” project. There will be no increase in permit limits. As required by our procedures we will advertise the application on our web site for consultation when it is sent to us. We will keep the SSG informed of the application and where to view it.

Dungeness B

In July 2023, we granted a variation to the DNB combustion permit, authorising the operation of a diesel fuelled standby boiler and generator. This will enable DNB to fulfil a nuclear safety requirement.

Discharge Reports

Both sites are required to report to us liquid and gaseous discharges to the environment on a monthly basis. Liquid and gaseous discharges from both Dungeness sites remain within the limits set by the Environmental Permits.

Dungeness A

Dungeness A has submitted the monthly gaseous and liquid waste discharge returns required to be reported to us. We have reviewed the discharge returns covering the period of this report and did not identify any unusual or unexplained trends. We continue to monitor all discharge reports.

The Operator reported that there will be a delay in the 2022 annual bulk samples being submitted to us due to an incorrect volume being written on a sample label. A sample from each delay tank discharge is taken in a calendar year. These samples are bulked and measured for various radionuclides to give a more accurate idea of aqueous discharges in the year. The Operator picked up the error in their verification procedures which meant that the sample analysis needed to be repeated. We expect the results in the next few weeks.

Dungeness B

Dungeness B has submitted gaseous and liquid waste discharge returns in line with requirements of the environmental permit. We have reviewed the discharge returns covering the period of this report and did not identify any unusual trends. We continue to monitor all discharge reports.

Environmental Monitoring

The Operators carry out monitoring of various environmental samples at periodic intervals and report the information to us. Dungeness B staff carry out the work on behalf of both sites. The programmes for the two sites are slightly different to reflect the radionuclides that are being discharged, the historical discharges and the operational activities taking place at each site.

Dungeness A and Dungeness B

Both sites submitted the Environmental Monitoring returns required to us in line with requirements of the environmental permits. We reviewed the environmental monitoring returns for the quarters covered by this report and did not identify any unusual trends.

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 of the GOV.UK website (www.gov.uk/topic/environmental-management/nuclear-regulation)

The Environment Agency's Lead Regulator for the Dungeness A site is Phil Fahey. The Environment Agency's Lead Regulator for the Dungeness B site is Eddie Osondu, Kezia White will be taking over as Lead Regulator from January 2024.

Phil, Eddie and Kezia are Nuclear Regulators and part of the Nuclear Regulation Group South (NRG South) based at the Environment Agency's Wallingford office in Oxfordshire.

NRG South 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.

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