



Joint Berkeley/Oldbury Site Stakeholder Group

Oldbury Conference Centre, Oldbury Naite, Thornbury, BS35 1RQ

Wednesday 31st January 2024

Meeting starts at 13.00, Refreshments served from 1230.

A G E N D A

- | | | |
|-------|----|---|
| 13.00 | 1. | Welcome |
| 13.05 | 2. | Apologies for absence |
| 13.10 | 3. | Minutes of Meeting held on 27 th September 2023
a) Accuracy
b) Matters arising |
| 13.15 | 4. | Site Director Reports
Oldbury - Mark Pitts
Berkeley - Mike Heaton |
| 13.40 | 5. | NRS Corporate Update – Bill Hamilton |
| 13.50 | 6. | NDA Update – TBC |
| 14.00 | 7. | ONR Reports – Paul Jenneson, Berkeley & Oldbury |
| 14.10 | 8. | Environment Agency Reports -
Peter Reynolds, Berkeley & Rebecca Cleverley, Oldbury |
| 14.20 | 9. | AOB
- Summary of the Railhead issue (to be discussed after
the meeting) |

SSG Meetings 2024 dates:

- 29th May 2024 – Venue TBC
- 25th September 2024 - Oldbury Conference Centre

**BERKELEY AND OLDBURY ON SEVERN SITE STAKEHOLDER GROUPS
SUMMARY OF KEY POINTS ARISING AT THE MEETING HELD AT
SOUTH GLOUCESTERSHIRE AND STROUD COLLEGE, BERKELEY ON
WEDNESDAY 27 SEPTEMBER 2023**

- Mr Bill Hamilton welcomed members to this joint meeting of the Site Stakeholder Groups for the Berkeley and Oldbury Sites. The following were elected as Chairs and Vice Chairs of the Groups for the coming year:

Oldbury Site Stakeholder Group

Chair Cllr M Riddle

Vice Chair Cllr C Jennings

Berkeley Site Stakeholder Group

Chair Mr J Stanton

Vice Chair Cllr S Chandler JP

- Mr Mark Pitts and Mr Chris Burden, acting Site Directors, reported on recent activities at the Sites. An asbestos analyst had sustained cuts to a thumb whilst separating microscope slides which had become stuck together.
- Following a planned outage, good progress was being made at Berkeley with the retrieval of wastes from the storage vaults. A Mosaik ductile cast iron container had been filled with waste from the former Shielded Area
- Contracts had been placed for work to achieve the removal of the former blower houses which were located around the Berkeley reactor buildings. A planning application had been made for a temporary building to accommodate this work.
- A volunteering scheme was being piloted at Berkeley and other sites. This would give opportunities for Site staff to provide support to local organisations. This scheme would in due course be operated at all Sites and members were invited to identify any local groups which might benefit from this scheme.
- Good progress was being made at Oldbury Site with the cutting of cables to achieve electrical isolation of the former Turbine Hall in order to enable demolition of the buildings in due course. The former Technical Centre had been isolated and was now ready for demolition. Three Caesium Removal Units which had been stored in the Oldbury cooling ponds had been dismantled.
- Mr Bill Hamilton reported on Magnox corporate issues. He said that Magnox would shortly be announcing a rebranding to reflect its changed role. Reports were provided by representatives of the Nuclear Decommissioning Authority, and the Environment Agency.

**BERKELEY AND OLDBURY ON SEVERN SITE STAKEHOLDER GROUPS
MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD AT SOUTH GLOUCESTERSHIRE AND
STROUD COLLEGE, BERKELEY ON WEDNESDAY 27 SEPTEMBER 2023**

PRESENT:

Mr J Stanton (in the chair)	-	Co-opted member
Cllr Mrs L Ashton	-	Berkeley Town Council
Cllr A Birch	-	Forest of Dean District Council
Cllr C Bloor	-	Thornbury Town Council
Cllr S Chandler JP	-	Hamfallow Parish Council
Cllr C Davies	-	South Gloucestershire Council
Cllr K Evans	-	Oldbury on Severn Parish Council
Cllr Ms S Gordon	-	Tytherington Parish Council
Cllr H Johnson	-	Tytherington Parish Council
Cllr C Jennings	-	Oldbury on Severn Parish Council
Mr M Lynden	-	Oldbury on Severn Parish Council
Cllr M Riddle	-	South Gloucestershire Council
Mr B Roberts	-	Thornbury Chamber of Commerce
Cllr B Tipper	-	Gloucestershire County Council
Cllr A Williams	-	South Gloucestershire Council
Cllr Ms V Williams	-	Alveston Parish Council

IN ATTENDANCE:

Mr S Napper	-	Nuclear Decommissioning Authority
Mr P Reynolds	-	Environment Agency
Ms G Ellis-King	-	South Gloucestershire Council
Ms R Cleverley	-	Environment Agency
Mr A Wintle	-	Environment Agency
Mr M Pitts	-	Acting Oldbury Site Director
Mr C Burden	-	Acting Berkeley Site Director
Mr W Hamilton	-	Magnox
Ms E Vaughan-Lewis	-	Magnox Communications
Mr L Delaney	-	Magnox
Mr G Wheeler		
Mr T Hellen		
Ms B French		
Mr G Vaughan-Lewis		
Mr M J Davis (Secretary)		

WELCOME

- 1 Mr Hamilton welcomed everyone to this joint meeting of the Berkeley and Oldbury on Severn Sites' Stakeholder Groups. He took the chair for the election of chairs and vice chairs for the SSGs of the two Sites.

ELECTION OF CHAIRS AND VICE CHAIRS

- 2 Mr Hamilton pointed out that Malcolm Lynden was retiring from his position as Chair of the Oldbury SSG; Malcolm had held this position with the SSG since its inception. Mr Hamilton paid tribute to Malcolm's work in this position and the contribution he had made on behalf of the SSG and the local community. He gave Malcolm a token of thanks from the Group. Malcolm said that he had enjoyed this role and expressed his best wishes for the future work of the SSG.

- 3 Mr Hamilton said that nominations received for the various posts of Chair and Vice Chair had been as follows:

Oldbury Site Stakeholder Group

Chair	Cllr M Riddle
Vice Chair	Cllr C Jennings

Berkeley Site Stakeholder Group

Chair	Mr J Stanton
Vice Chair	Cllr S Chandler JP

- 4 As there were no other nominations for any of these posts, all nominees were duly elected, and Mr Stanton took the chair for the remainder of this meeting.

APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

- 5 Apologies for absence were received from Cllr C Davies (Stinchcombe), Mr P Jenneson, Cllr G Langdon, Rev S Godsell, Cllr J Crook, Ms V Heselton, Mr S Henderson, Mr G Craig, Mr N Kaye, Cllr I Bamfield, Cllr D Griffiths and Ms A Presdee.

MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

(a) Accuracy

- 6 The minutes of the joint meeting of the Berkeley and Oldbury SSGs held on 11 May 2023 were approved as an accurate record.

(b) Matters arising

- 7 There were no matters arising from the minutes of the previous meeting.

SITE DIRECTORS' REPORTS

- 8 It was noted that Mr Mike Heaton was recovering following his recent illness. He had returned to work and would be resuming his normal duties during October.

- 9 Mr Pitts and Mr Burden reported on recent activities at the Oldbury and Berkeley Sites, drawing particular attention to the following:
- (i) An asbestos analyst at Oldbury Site had sustained cuts to a thumb whilst trying to separate microscope slides which had become stuck together. Working practices had been changed to prevent any recurrence.
 - (ii) At Berkeley, following a planned outage of waste retrieval equipment during July, retrievals had resumed. During the current year to date some 13 tonnes of waste had been retrieved from the vaults; The target for the Site for the full year was 46 tonnes, a major part of the company's total target of 100 tonnes.
 - (iii) The first Mosaik DCIC container had been filled with waste from the Berkeley shielded area. The filling of a second container would commence shortly.
 - (iv) Contracts had been placed as part of the project to remove the blower house structures at Berkeley. Ductwork stored in these houses would have asbestos removed on site before it was packaged and sent to a plant in Teesside for decontamination and metal melt. A planning application had been submitted for a temporary building needed to carry out this work.
 - (v) Maintenance work was being undertaken on various civil structures at Berkeley.
 - (vi) Berkeley was acting as one of a number of lead sites in developing a volunteering system to support local organisations. Members were asked to contact Mrs Vaughan Lewis if they knew of any charities which might benefit from such assistance.
 - (vii) Mr Delaney described circumstances which has contributed to a reported increase in levels of some discharges at Berkeley as noted at an earlier meeting of this Group. It was noted that the reported increase could be explained by changes in the assessment methodology and allowances made for a damaged item of monitoring equipment. Mr Delaney pointed out that discharges were very low in relation to authorised limits and potential exposures to members of the public were very low compared with exposures which might be received during commercial airline flights and from natural background radiation.
 - (viii) Good progress was being made at Oldbury with the cutting of cables in order to achieve electrical isolation of the turbine hall before demolition could take place. The former Technical Centre had been isolated and was now ready for demolition.
 - (ix) Three Caesium Removal Units located in the Pond Filtration Plant Building have been dismantled and made ready for despatch from site. This work had been completed ahead of schedule.

- (x) In due course Oldbury would join the volunteering scheme being piloted at Berkeley. Some funds remained available for grants under the company's socio-economic support scheme – members were invited to identify any organisations which might benefit from this support.
 - (xi) An Oldbury Site community engagement event held at the Oldbury Memorial Hall had included the provision of information on plans for the future of Silt Lagoon 3.
 - (xii) Blood donation sessions were to be held in the Oldbury Conference Centre.
- 10 In reply to a question, Mr Pitts said that much work remained to be done in the former Turbine Hall to remove plant and equipment before demolition could take place.

MAGNOX CORPORATE UPDATE

- 11 Mr Hamilton reported on Magnox corporate issues. He drew particular attention to the following:
- (i) The company would shortly be announcing changes in its branding. SSG members would be informed of the changes.
 - (ii) The company was engaging, via a polling company, with members of the public in the vicinity of its sites in order to reach an understanding of local views in relation to the future uses of sites.
- 12 In response to a question from Mr Vaughan-Lewis, Mr Hamilton explained the arrangements made for funding of AGR decommissioning. In response to a further question from Mrs French, he explained the arrangements for the processing of the high-level waste which resulted from the reprocessing of irradiated fuels.

NUCLEAR DECOMMISSIONING AUTHORITY

- 13 Mr Napper reported on current NDA issues, drawing particular attention to the following:
- (i) A meeting of senior NDA personnel with the Chairs of the various SSGs was to take place in October.
 - (ii) NDA had published its annual report and accounts which could be accessed on the website.
 - (iii) A draft business plan was to be published by the NDA for consultation.
 - (iv) Good progress was being made at Sellafield in providing access to wastes which had been stored on site for many years, allowing them to be repackaged for disposal.

BERKELEY RAILHEAD

- 12 Mr Stanton referred to the NDA's apparent refusal to allow a group of local rail enthusiasts to develop their activities in the vicinity of the Berkeley railhead.
- 13 Mr Napper said that it had been concluded that it was not possible for NDA to grant a sublease of part of the railhead site in view of its future potential use of the facility.

OFFICE FOR NUCLEAR REGULATION

- 14 Apologies for absence had been received from Mr Jenneson.

ENVIRONMENT AGENCY

- 17 Mr Reynolds and Ms Cleverley reported on the Environment Agency's regulatory activities in relation to the Berkeley and Oldbury Sites. They drew attention to the following:
- (i) Planned inspections at the Sites had been carried out with satisfactory results and further inspections were scheduled to take place.
 - (ii) Discharges of radioactivity continued to be well within permitted limits.
- 18 Cllr Chandler referred to increases in Carbon 14 and Beta particulate discharges from Berkeley reported to this Group at an earlier meeting. Mr Delaney said that no cause of such increase had been identified. Mr Burden said that with increased levels of retrievals of waste, increases in discharges were to be expected, but discharges remained well below permitted limits. It was possible that an apparent increase in the level of discharges could be reported due to increases in the number of discharge points as, even if no discharges were measurable, the reported discharges would be at the limit of detection of the equipment for each discharge point.

ANY OTHER BUSINESS

- 19 Mr Stanton expressed thanks to the South Gloucestershire and Stroud College for the use of the facilities for this meeting.

DATE TIME AND PLACE OF NEXT MEETING

- 20 Proposed dates for meetings of these Groups during 2024 were noted as follows:
- 31 January
 - 29 May
 - 25 September.

MJD
5 October 2023



Update for Berkeley/Oldbury SSG

NDA Stakeholder Engagement

January 2024



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NDA Stakeholder Update

Please find below a brief update on main points of interest since the last meeting.

- As part of our ongoing commitment to create meaningful engagement with our stakeholders, we recently held our virtual stakeholder summit '**Creating meaningful conversations**'. More than 160 delegates joined the event in December 2023 and initial feedback has been positive. The event covered the progress we are making in delivering our mission, and our wider contributions with regard to sustainability, social value, and skills.
- We are busy planning our next **regional stakeholder roadshow**, which will be held in north Wales before the end of March 2024, with the date to be confirmed. The roadshow will focus on innovation and follow the successful format of events in Cumbria and Glasgow which took place in partnership with universities in the regions.
- Our next in person **stakeholder conference** will be held later this year. We are still looking to fix both the venue in Cumbria and the date and will keep you informed of our progress.
- The Department for Energy Security and Net Zero has now published its **Civil Nuclear Roadmap**. The roadmap includes information and commitments relevant to our mission.
- Following its consultation in 2023, the **Government's new UK policy** on the sustainable and effective management of radioactive substances and nuclear decommissioning will be published later this spring.
- Our latest NDA 2023 **Mission Progress Report** (MPR) was published in November. It shows how we're progressing delivery of the NDA mission and what's still left to do, providing a baseline against which future progress can be tracked. It should be seen in context with the other NDA documents we issue, and it forms part of our commitment to openness and transparency.
- Parliamentary Members of the **Public Accounts Committee**, along with the National Audit Office, visited Sellafield in October. We welcomed the opportunity to open our doors to the body responsible for holding government to account for value for money, allowing us to demonstrate the progress we are making and share some of the challenges we face.
- Our updated **Social Impact and Communities Strategy** is out for consultation until February 12. The strategy is updated every three years and updated where



necessary. The last one was published as the pandemic took hold and much has changed since then.

- The second year of our **NDA group graduate programme** has opened, with the number of opportunities doubling to 120 across a diverse range of professional disciplines. The programme complements our support to the industry to build a long-term and sustainable pipeline of skills.
- Nuclear Waste Services (NWS) has begun aerial surveys and studies to evaluate potential sites suitable to host a **Geological Disposal Facility** (GDF), to permanently dispose of the UK's higher activity waste. Three communities are in the siting process, with one down-selection decision already taken.
- NWS worked with the Nuclear Industry Association to take members of the All Parliamentary Party Group on Nuclear Energy to visit the **Finnish Geological Disposal Facility** (GDF) ONKALO, currently under construction. This helped bring this vital project to life and shined a light on the progress we are making at home.
- Her Royal Highness **The Princess Royal** visited Nuclear Transport Solutions' home port in Barrow-in-Furness to explore one of Pacific Nuclear Transport Limited's (PNTL) specialist nuclear vessels, and a Direct Rail Services (DRS) locomotive.

Thank you for taking the time to read our update. If you have any questions, please feed-back through the Secretariat.



Nuclear
Decommissioning
Authority



Office for
Nuclear Regulation

ONR Site Report

Magnox Ltd – Oldbury

ONR Site Report

Magnox Ltd - Oldbury

Report for period: 1 July – 30 September 2023

Authored by: Nominated Site Inspector

Approved by: DFW Delivery Lead

Issue No.: 1

Publication Date: October-23

ONR Record Ref. No.: 2023/51173

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

Site inspectors from ONR usually attend Oldbury 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

ONR inspectors carried out inspections on the following dates during the report period 1 July 2023 to 30 September 2023:

- 11 & 26 July 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 Oldbury covered the following:

- management of operations including control and supervision;
- plant construction and/or commissioning;
- emergency preparedness;
- decommissioning;
- 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 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.

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 reporting 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 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

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

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Office for
Nuclear Regulation

ONR Site Report

Magnox Ltd – Oldbury

ONR Site Report

Magnox Ltd - Oldbury

Report for period: 1 October – 31 December 2023

Authored by: Nominated Site Inspector

Approved by: DFW Delivery Lead

Issue No.: 1

Publication Date: January-24

ONR Record Ref. No.: 2024/88

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

Site inspectors from ONR usually attend Oldbury 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

ONR inspectors carried out inspections on the following dates during the report period 1 October 2023 to 31 December 2023:

- 17, 18 & 26 October 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 Oldbury covered the following:

- emergency preparedness;
- 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 demonstrated its emergency preparedness on the 18 October 2023 to the ONR site inspector. The demonstration was judged as adequate and met the regulatory expectations of Licence Condition 11.

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.

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 reporting 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 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

Office for Nuclear Regulation
Redgrave Court
Merton Road
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website: www.onr.org.uk
email: Contact@onr.gov.uk

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ONR Site Report

Magnox Ltd – Berkeley

ONR Site Report

Magnox Ltd - Berkeley

Report for period: 1 July – 30 September 2023

Authored by: P Jenneson, Nominated Site Inspector

Approved by: I Phillips, DFW Delivery Lead

Issue No.: 1

Publication Date: October-23

ONR Record Ref. No.: 2023/51166

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

Site inspectors from ONR usually attend Berkeley Site Stakeholders 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

ONR inspectors carried out inspections on the following dates during the report period 1 July 2023 to 30 September 2023:

- 20 & 25 July 2023
- 17 August 2023
- 12 September 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)
- 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 Berkeley covered the following:

- modifications to plant, equipment and safety cases
- plant construction and/or commissioning
- decommissioning
- 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 ONR Chief Nuclear Inspector (CNI) met with the Magnox Ltd Chair on 17 August 2023 at Berkeley to discuss Magnox Ltd strategic issues and to visit the ILW retrieval operations. The Magnox Ltd Berkeley ILW retrieval operations were used as a case study in the [CNI's annual review of industry performance](#).

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

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 reporting 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 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

Office for Nuclear Regulation
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ONR Site Report

Magnox Ltd – Berkeley

ONR Site Report

Magnox Ltd - Berkeley

Report for period: 1 October – 31 December 2023

Authored by: P Jenneson, Nominated Site Inspector

Approved by: I Phillips, DFW Delivery Lead

Issue No.: 1

Publication Date: January 2024

ONR Record Ref. No.: 2024/204

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 Berkeley Site Stakeholders Group and are also available on the ONR website (<http://www.onr.org.uk/lrc/>).

Site inspectors from ONR usually attend Berkeley Site Stakeholders 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

ONR inspectors carried out inspections on the following dates during the report period 1 October 2023 to 31 December 2023:

- 3 October 2023
- 12 December 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)
- 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 Berkeley covered the following:

- examination, maintenance, inspection and testing;
- decommissioning
- 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 held regular meetings with the Site Director and weekly keep-in-touch meetings with the operational staff on site. During these meetings they discussed regulatory issues, site incidents, future permissioning and progress with significant decommissioning milestone delivery.

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 reporting 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 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

Office for Nuclear Regulation
Redgrave Court
Merton Road
Bootle
Merseyside
L20 7HS
website: www.onr.org.uk
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Environment Agency Report

Oldbury Site Stakeholder Group

January 2024

This report covers our regulation of Magnox at Oldbury Site, and related issues, from October 2023 to January 2024.

Radioactive substances regulation

We regulate radioactive waste disposals and discharges to the environment. We do this through environmental permits that contain limits and conditions aimed at minimising wastes and protecting the environment. We check compliance with the permits by making regular site inspections.

We also regulate and control other activities through our environmental permits, including surface water discharges to surrounding water bodies and emissions to air.

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

Permitting

Magnox (also known as NRS) holds a radioactive substances activity permit under the Environmental Permitting Regulations (EPR) at the Oldbury site (EPR/GB3435DG). No changes have been made to the permit since the last SSG meeting.

Compliance activities

We check compliance with the permit by making regular inspections at Oldbury. We issue RASCARs for inspections to summarise the findings of the inspection. This includes any identified non-compliances, actions, recommendations and observations of good practice.

We have regular 'keep in touch' with the Head of Radiological Protection and Environment to ensure we are aware of progress on decommissioning, progress on actions and recommendations and any emerging issues at the site. The NRS Internal Assessor joins our keep in touch meetings and our site inspections where possible.

In October 2023 and early January 2024 we attended quarterly regulatory interface meetings with Office for Nuclear Regulation and NRS. These meetings cover Oldbury, Berkeley and Hinkley Point A sites. NRS presents programme updates, and answers questions on performance indicators for each site covering areas of interest such as environmental protection, sustainability, waste, asset management and maintenance.

In addition to our own inspection activities we also review, on a fortnightly basis, NRS reports of operational events and incidents that have occurred on site. We follow up on these where appropriate. There have been no events or incidents affecting permit compliance in the period since the last SSG.

Environmental impact

The site environmental permit requires the operator to monitor and assess the impact of discharges on the environment. NRS submits an environmental monitoring programme report to us on a quarterly basis.

The results of NRS's environmental monitoring programme (EMP) indicate that the environmental impact from permitted discharges remains low. NRS's results continue to be consistent with our independent programme, and do not indicate any results of concern or significant change from previous years.

The Environment Agencies and Food Standards Agency carry out independent environmental monitoring around nuclear sites. These monitoring programmes support our regulatory function and provide reassurance that public radiation exposures are low and within legal limits. The results of this work are published annually and the latest report, *Radioactivity in Food and the Environment 2022 (RIFE 28)*, was published on the GOV.UK website in November 2022.

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/radioactivity-in-food-and-the-environment-rife-reports>

The report for 2022 continues to show that total doses to the public, from permitted discharges and direct radiation around nuclear sites, remained below the legal limit. Radioactivity from natural background, rather than nuclear sites, continues to be the more significant source of exposure to communities in all areas of the UK. Radioactivity in the environment, from the nuclear industry and from past testing of nuclear weapons, accounted for less than 0.2% of the exposure to the UK population.

The RIFE report presents an assessment of annual radiological dose to individuals in the local population who are most exposed to radiation from each nuclear licensed site (known as the 'representative person'). Berkeley and Oldbury sites are considered together for the purposes of RIFE because the effects from both sites contribute to the same area.

In 2022, the attributed total dose to the representative person from all pathways and sources of radiation from the Oldbury and Berkeley sites combined was 0.006 millisieverts. This is a decrease compared to 2021, when the total dose was estimated to be 0.013mSv. The decrease is largely attributed to a lower estimate of direct radiation from the Berkeley site in 2022.

The total dose of 0.006 millisieverts equates to less than 1% of the UK National dose limit (the annual limit for radiation exposure for a member of the public) of 1 millisievert, and less than 0.5% of the average annual radiation dose received by everyone from all sources including natural sources of radiation (2.7 millisieverts/year).

Further information, including the most recent breakdown of the average individual dose to the UK population by source of exposure, is available on the UKHSA website here

<https://www.ukhsa-protectionservices.org.uk/radiationandyou/>

Discharges from site

The site's environmental permit requires NRS to use best available techniques (BAT) to minimise the generation of radioactive waste, and minimise any permitted releases into the environment. Disposal of wastes, as solids, liquid or gases, can only be made via permitted routes or by transfer to permitted sites. Limits are set in the permit to control the

maximum level of radioactivity that can be discharged to the environment as gaseous or liquid discharges over a rolling 12-month period. Reports of the liquid and gaseous discharges to the environment are submitted to us on a monthly basis, and the results of the environmental monitoring programme are submitted quarterly. We assess these against the requirements of the permit and record this in a RASCAR.

Both liquid and gaseous discharges from Oldbury continue to be at levels well within permitted limits. Discharges of all measured gaseous and liquid radionuclides remained below 1% of their relevant annual limits. Although these discharges remain low, it is noted that the relative level of these discharges may fluctuate as the decommissioning programme evolves.

Enforcement

We have not taken any enforcement action at Oldbury in the period since the last SSG meeting.

Further information

A public register service is available on the GOV.UK website at:

<https://environment.data.gov.uk/public-register/view/index>

Alternatively, you can request access to public documents directly by contacting the Customers and Engagement Team in the Wallingford office. Please email

WTenquiries@environment-agency.gov.uk

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 pages of the GOV.UK website at:

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

Our enforcement and sanctions policy is publicly available on the GOV.UK website at

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/environment-agency-enforcement-and-sanctions-policy/environment-agency-enforcement-and-sanctions-policy>

Public Health England has placed guidance on ionising radiation dose comparisons on the GOV.UK at:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/ionising-radiation-dose-comparisons>

The Environment Agency's lead nuclear regulator for the Oldbury site is Rebecca Cleverley. Rebecca is part of the national Nuclear Regulation Group (South) (NRG South) which is based at the Environment Agency's Wallingford office in Oxfordshire.

NRG South undertakes environmental regulation of radioactive substances on nuclear licensed sites in southern England. It works closely with the local Environment Agency teams in those areas as well as external bodies such as the Office for Nuclear Regulation.

Members of the local Wessex Environment Agency team cover the site for general (non-radioactive substances) environment protection matters such as regulation of groundwater, contaminated land, waste management and water abstraction.

Address: Environment Agency, Red Kite House, Howbery Park, Wallingford, Oxfordshire, OX10 8BD

Email: rebecca.cleverley@environment-agency.gov.uk

Environment Agency Report

Berkeley Site Stakeholder Group

January 2023

This report covers our regulation of Magnox Ltd. at Berkeley Site and related issues over the period September 2023 to December 2023.

Radioactive substances regulation

We regulate radioactive waste disposals and discharges to the environment. We do this by placing limits and conditions in environmental permits, which helps us to ensure that radioactive waste discharges are minimised, and that the environment is protected. We conduct regular checks of Magnox's compliance with our regulatory requirements.

We also regulate and control other activities through our environmental permits, including surface water discharges to surrounding water bodies and emissions to air.

We make our Radioactive Substances Compliance Assessment Reports (RASCARs) summarising our inspections, and any non-compliances found, available to the public on request.

Permitting

Magnox holds a radioactive substances activity permit under the Environmental Permitting Regulations (EPR) at the Berkeley site (EPR/ZP3893SG). No changes have been made to the permit since the last SSG meeting.

Compliance activities

We keep in contact with Berkeley site via remote meetings at monthly intervals to stay up to date on the status of decommissioning projects, progress on actions and recommendations arising from previous interventions and any emerging issues at the site.

We review Magnox's reports of operational events and incidents that have occurred on site on a weekly basis. We follow up on these reports where events have a significant environmental impact or are an indicator of wider issues. There have been no events or incidents of concern to us in the period since the last SSG meeting in September 2023.

We visited Berkeley site in November 2023 to review arrangements for managing liquid effluent. We did not find any non-conformance with permit conditions. We made a minor observation on labelling environmentally critical equipment.

Active effluent discharges from Berkeley are low, having remained below 40 cubic metres/year for the past four years. Redundant active effluent pipework has been dismantled and effluent is transported by bowser from its source to the discharge tank. There is no direct towns water connection to the discharge tank. We consider that there is a low probability of leaks of effluent to environment going undetected.

A survey of Berkeley site's foul sewer network was underway at time of our visit in November. We have requested Magnox to send us a copy of this report when it is published.

We reviewed the process the BAT (best available techniques) assessment by Magnox of a proposed modification to the active waste vaults ventilation system. Since completing the modification and commissioning the new bypass line, Magnox have tested the assumptions made when they carried out the BAT assessment. We were satisfied that Magnox followed good practice and that the process and outcomes of the BAT assessment met our expectations.

We discussed the site's approach to minimising fire risk and minimising the impacts of a fire on the environment. We agreed that the probability of a major fire involving radioactivity at the site was very low. We suggested that Berkeley staff consult with off-site fire services to investigate options for containing firewater run-off on site temporarily while a decision is made on its optimal disposal route.

We plan to inspect permit compliance arrangements at Berkeley on the following topic areas over the remainder of the 2023 financial year:

- Quarter 4: Follow-up on previous inspections on asset management arrangements and decommissioning strategy

Environmental impact

The site environmental permit requires the operator to monitor and assess the impact of discharges on the environment. The results of Magnox's environmental monitoring programme continue to be consistent with our independent programme, and do not indicate any results of concern or significant change from previous years.

The Environment Agencies and Food Standards Agency carry out independent environmental monitoring around nuclear sites. These monitoring programmes support our regulatory function and provide reassurance that public radiation exposures are low and within legal limits. The results of this work are published annually and the latest report, "Radioactivity in Food and the Environment 2022" (RIFE 28), is now available on the GOV.UK website at:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/radioactivity-in-food-and-the-environment-rife-reports>

Data provided in the RIFE report for 2022 show that total doses to the public, from permitted discharges and direct radiation around nuclear sites, remained below the legal limit. 'Total dose' for the representative person from Berkeley and Oldbury together was estimated to be 0.006mSv in 2022 and decreased compared to 2021, when the 'total dose' was estimated to be 0.013mSv. The decrease in 'total dose' was mostly attributed to lower estimate of direct radiation from Berkeley site in 2022.

Radioactivity from natural background, rather than nuclear sites, continues to be the more significant source of exposure to communities in all areas of the UK. Anthropogenic radioactivity in the environment, from the nuclear industry and from past testing of nuclear weapons, accounts for less than 0.2% of the exposure to the UK population.

Discharges from site

The site's environmental permit requires Magnox to use best available techniques (BAT) to manage its operations and to ensure their impacts on the public and wider environment are minimised. Disposal of wastes – as solids, liquid or gases can only be made via

permitted routes or by transfer to permitted sites. Magnox must also conduct a programme of environmental monitoring. They submit a report of the liquid and gaseous discharges to the environment, and the results of the environmental monitoring programme to us at quarterly intervals. We assess these against the requirements of the permit and record this in a RASCAR.

Liquid and gaseous discharges from Berkeley remained within their 12-month rolling permitted limits during the three months from July to September 2023. Gaseous carbon-14 discharges for the 12-months to September 2023 stood at 1.23 gigabecquerels or 24.6 % of the permit limit of 5 gigabecquerels for carbon-14. Gaseous emissions of beta emitting particulates reported over the same period were 0.91 megabecquerels or 4.55% of their permit limit of 20 megabecquerels. All other monitored radionuclides or radionuclide groups in gaseous or liquid discharges were less than 1% of their annual discharge limits.

Magnox have reported an increasing trend in carbon-14 and beta emitting particulate emissions to atmosphere since the third quarter of 2022, although emissions remain well below permit limits. Magnox have found an error in the use of a spreadsheet used to calculate discharges that led to the activity of beta emitting particulate discharges being overreported for several months. We have recently received a copy of their report on their investigation into the cause of the error. The error does not appear to have had a material impact on the environment. We are considering what further action we need to take.

Enforcement

We have not taken any enforcement action at Berkeley in the period since the previous SSG meeting.

Further information

The Environment Agency's Lead Regulator for Berkeley Site is Peter Reynolds, based in the Environment Agency's Nuclear Regulation Group (South) (NRG(S)).

NRG(S) is responsible for the environmental regulation of radioactive waste disposals on or from nuclear licensed sites in southern England (and in south Wales, on behalf of Natural Resources Wales). We also work closely with the local Environment Agency teams in Wessex Area in relation to other Environment Agency roles and responsibilities.

Address Environment Agency, Nuclear Regulation Group, Red Kite House,
Howbery Park, Wallingford, Oxfordshire, OX10 8BD

Regulator Email peter.reynolds@environment-agency.gov.uk

A public register service is available on the GOV.UK website at:

<https://environment.data.gov.uk/public-register/view/index>

Alternatively, you can request access to public documents directly by contacting the Customers and Engagement Team in the Wallingford office. Please email WTenquiries@environment-agency.gov.uk

customer service line 03708 506 506

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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 pages of the Gov.UK website at:

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