



**DUNGENESS A SITE AND B POWER STATION
SITE STAKEHOLDER GROUP MEETING THURSDAY 8 OCTOBER 2026
AT 1000 HRS, REFRESHMENTS AVAILABLE FROM 0930 HRS**

VENUE:

Training Room 6&7 (Enter via Main Security Reception and up the stairs).

- INTRODUCTION
- APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE
- TO APPROVE THE MINUTES
- MATTERS ARISING
- CORRESPONDENCE
- CHAIRMANS REPORT
- DUNGENESS A's SITE DIRECTOR'S PRESENTATION DAVE EVANS,
SITE DIRECTOR
- DUNGENESS B'S STATION DIRECTOR'S REPORT GAVIN LANCASTER
STATION DIRECTOR
- ONR REPORT FOR DUNG A & B - KATHARINE WALKER ONR INSPECTOR
- ENVIRONMENTAL UPDATE FOR DUNGENESS A - MIRIAM ALLARDICE & KEZIA
WHITE (VIA TEAMS)
- NDA UPDATE - DAVE EVANS
- ANY OTHER BUSINESS
- DATE OF NEXT MEETING 2027 TBC



Dungeness A & B Site Stakeholder Group (SSG)

25 June 2026

Held at Dungeness B Power Station, Romney Marsh, TN29 9PX

Attendees

Chair: Graham Finn

Vice Chair: David Godfrey

Regulators (via Microsoft Teams): Katharine Walker (ONR – Dungeness A); Bert Broadley (ONR – Dungeness B, virtual); Vanessa McKay (EA); Miriam Allardice (EA); Nicol Caplin (EA); Kezia White (EA – Dungeness B).

Operators / Officers: Dave Evans (NRS – Dungeness A Site Director); Vicki Baxter (NRS); Jon Black (NRS); Kayleigh Ridley (NRS); Clair McLaren (NRS, Minute Taker); Paul Windle (EDF – Dungeness B); Matthew Pardo (EDF).

Voting Members / Local Authorities: Paul Thomas (Folkestone & Hythe District Council); Tony Hills (Folkestone & Hythe District Council); Jo Wynn-Carter (Folkestone & Hythe District Council); Daniel Bradley (East Sussex Council); Richard Highgate (Kent County Council); Alyson Shaw (Marsh Academy).

Members of the Public / Community: Clare Bruce; Diane Gelon.

Other attendees: David Dodman (GMB Union); Doug Suckling (GMB Union); Spencer Bashford (Local Joint Council TU).

1. Welcome and Introduction – Graham Finn (Chair)

- Graham Finn welcomed the group and reminded attendees to identify themselves and their organisation when speaking, to support the minutes.
- A safety message was given, including a reminder to stay hydrated due to the hot weather and to use the sign-in arrangements for attendance and fire safety purposes.

2. Apologies for Absence

Gavin Lancaster (EDF – Dungeness B Site Director), Cllr Jean Jones (Lydd Town Council), Rod Lean (Folkestone and Hythe District Council), Tudor Price (Kent Invicta Chamber of Commerce), Barrie Goodman (Union Representative, B Site), and Cllr Paul Redstone (Councillor for Northern Rother).

3. AGM Business

Appointment of officers

- Graham Finn and David Godfrey remain appointed as Chair and Vice Chair. It was noted that officers were appointed at the previous AGM and the appointment term is now five years.

Conflicts of interest

- Graham Finn declared that he is an independent member of the Sizewell C Nuclear Safety Committee and the EDF Cyclife Nuclear Safety Committee.
- David Godfrey declared that he is a District Councillor.
- Paul Thomas declared that he is a Town Councillor and Vice Chair of NULEAF.

- Tony Hills declared that he is a District Councillor.
- Daniel Bradley declared roles with East Sussex County Council, Rother District Council and as local liaison officer for local government.

Constitution

- The Constitution was reviewed. It was updated last year in line with NDA guidance and signed off by the NDA. No amendments were raised.

4. Minutes of Last Meeting

- The minutes of the previous meeting were accepted as a true and accurate record.
- The Chair discussed the revised, shorter format for minutes. Members agreed the new format was a positive change.

5. Matters Arising

None.

6. Correspondence

- Lydd Town Council advised a change of representatives to Councillor Tony Dawes and Councillor Tony May.
- Rother District Council advised that Councillor Daniel Bradley is now its representative.
- The following correspondence had been received and, where relevant, circulated to members:
- NDA review of SSG website,
- NDA Stakeholder Survey 2026,
- Dungeness A letter giving notice of sewage plant demolition starting on 2nd February.
- Dungeness B decommissioning public consultation, scoping report.
- Dungeness A boiler house demolition planning application determination update,
- NDA Economic Impact Assessment report.

7. Chair's Report – Graham Finn

- The Chair attended an Environment Agency meeting on 2 June which provided a wider update on nuclear regulatory work.
- The Chair attended Dungeness B decommissioning consultation events at Lydd. His personal response supported clearing the site as soon as possible for future use and asked for clearer NDA engagement with EDF's decommissioning strategy before handover.
- The Chair advised that there will not be regular NDA attendance at future SSG meetings. Site Directors will be the face of the NDA for SSG meetings, and Dave Evans will answer questions where possible or take them away for response.
- The Chair reminded members that local funding is available for community groups. The latest award supported a Kent Scout group with water-sports safety equipment at lakes in Ashford.
- NRS confirmed that new funding applications are being reviewed for the current financial year.

8. NRS Dungeness A Site Report – Dave Evans

Dave Evans introduced himself as the new Dungeness A Site Director, outlining his background in civil engineering, major projects, nuclear new build and the NDA group.

Updates provided in the Site Director's presentation.

Discussion and questions

- Members asked for proactive public engagement and communications, including industrial tourism and public expectations around the boiler project. NRS agreed to take this away.

- The Chair and Vice Chair reiterated that residents should be kept updated ahead of noisy works, emergency drills or visible site activity.
- Members asked NRS to involve local people in the appearance and colour of future weatherproofing or cladding, as the structures will be visible for a long period.
- Tony Hills asked NRS to consider UV treatment for sewage discharge. NRS agreed to take this away.
- Tony Hills also raised bund condition and flood resilience. NRS agreed to review the A site position.

9. EDF Dungeness B Site Report – Paul Windle

The EDF report was circulated prior to the meeting. Paul Windle attended in place of Gavin Lancaster and provided a summary update.

Discussion and questions

- Matthew Pardo acknowledged issues with parking on the day due to ongoing works for the new admin building. He asked members if they are happy to continue to use the meeting room at Dungeness B for the SSG meetings, members stated they were okay with continuing to make use of the meeting room at the site for future meetings.

10. NDA Report

No separate NDA representative was present. Members were advised earlier in the meeting that Site Directors will act as the route for NDA questions at future meetings.

11. NRS Corporate Update

- Hunterston B joined NRS in April 2026. Hinkley Point B is expected to transfer in autumn 2026, with Dungeness B, Torness, Heysham 1 and 2, and Hartlepool expected to join over future years.
- NRS noted new ONR guidance and the move towards risk-led oversight, with a focus on reducing unnecessary regulatory burden where appropriate.
- NRS welcomed new representatives following elections and said it looks forward to continuing local collaboration.

12. Regulators

12a. Office for Nuclear Regulation (ONR) – Dungeness A, Katharine Walker

Papers circulated prior to meeting

- An ONR inspection was carried out under the Health and Safety at Work Act and Electricity at Work Regulations, focused on electrical isolations for the boiler down project.
- The inspection was rated green. No advice was offered and arrangements were described as adequate and satisfactory.

12b. Office for Nuclear Regulation (ONR) – Dungeness B, Bert Broadley

Papers circulated prior to meeting

- Bert Broadley introduced himself as the nominated site inspector for Dungeness B, taking over from Jason Crook.
- Inspections carried out during the period listed in the report were rated green.
- A Level 1 emergency exercise demonstration received an amber rating due to identified shortfalls in casualty management and the handling of ill-health scenarios during the exercise. The ONR has issued enforcement correspondence and will monitor the implementation of improvement actions.
- ONR has published its assessment on the pre-application opinion for Dungeness B decommissioning and noted productive engagement with the site.
- ONR will follow up learning from an incident in which an individual was hurt by flying debris during deconstruction work.

12c. Environment Agency (EA) – Dungeness A, Vanessa McKay and Miriam Allardice

Papers circulated prior to meeting

- The Environment Agency completed a lower activity waste inspection in February and April. No non-compliances were identified.
- The Environment Agency has issued its regulatory decision following an inspection on suitably qualified and experienced personnel. One Category 4 non-compliance was identified and actions have been communicated to bring the operator back into compliance.
- The Environment Agency identified two Category 3 non-compliances linked to ventilation systems management arrangements and resource. A warning letter and regulatory actions have been issued. The Environment Agency stated it does not currently consider environmental impacts to have occurred as a result of these deficiencies.
- The Environment Agency is reviewing Dungeness A's updated environmental monitoring programme.

12d. Environment Agency (EA) – Dungeness B, Nicol Caplin and Kezia White

Papers circulated prior to meeting

- The Environment Agency completed a defuelling discharges and solid waste inspection in February and concluded defuelling had not introduced new operational activities or risks.
- Three compliance assessment outcomes were discussed: a Category 3 non-compliance on gas circulator waste; a Category 3 non-compliance relating to diesel in a bund; and a total residual oxidant exceedance for which the relevant dosing system has been stopped while the issue is addressed.
- An environmental leadership inspection has been rearranged for August.
- The Environment Agency clarified that non-compliance categories range from 1 to 4, with Category 1 being the most severe and Category 4 having only theoretical impact. Category 3 relates to minor impact on human health, quality of life or the environment.

14. Any Other Business

- The Chair noted that Doug Suckling from the GMB had provided information on GMB support for new nuclear at Dungeness, including a QR code for further information.
- Paper copies of reports circulated electronically were available for members to take away.
- Members supported the idea of a future site tour. Options will be explored, potentially linked to a future SSG meeting.
- Members discussed future meeting location and parking. Tony Hills said he valued meetings being held on site.
- Tony Hills said the meeting pack was useful and suggested receiving papers early because there is a lot to read.
- The Chair confirmed that Dungeness SSG will remain at three meetings per year for now, with additional meetings possible if significant matters arise.

Meeting Close

The meeting closed at 11.40am.

Date of Next Meeting

- Thursday 8 October 2026

Dungeness Site Stakeholder Group - EDF Report

September 2026

Station Director's Message September 2026

This has been a momentous year for UK nuclear defueling. In April Hunterston B transferred to Nuclear Restoration Services (NRS) and in early October Hinkley Point B, which completed its defueling mission last November, will move across. Now Dungeness B is the only station defueling and we are making great strides. So much so that although our focus remains on delivering safe and reliable defueling, our planning is now thinking hard about what comes once we have completed this part of our mission.

Defueling Operations

- Dungeness B entered its defueling phase in June 2021. This work involves the careful removal of nuclear fuel from the reactor. Our reactors hold 408 channels of fuel in Unit 21 and 407 in Unit 22. Once removed the spent fuel is then moved to our cooling ponds where it is placed into what we call skips and once the skips are full, they are moved into flasks in the ponds, as below.



- Once the fuel is in the flasks, the flasks are taken out of the ponds and placed onto the back of a transporter lorry, driven to our railhead where they are shifted onto a specific train and taken to Sellafield, as below.



- As of September 11 2026, and since we started defueling operations in May 2023, we have removed fuel from 360 channels across the two reactors.
- During June and July movement of flasks offsite was temporarily paused when part of the train line used to transport fuel to Sellafield, was observed to have been undermined. Teams from Dungeness B and EDF were in close conversations with Network Rail and when it was confirmed there was no further risk to operations resuming, the trains restarted.
- In July defueling operations were in full swing and the team defuelled 31 channels in 31 days, a station best performance.
- Defueling operations were paused briefly in August after a crucial piece of equipment in the process, the tie bar cropper, a device which cuts material which pins our strings of fuel together, started to degrade.
- While works to replace the cropper proceeded the station completed one of the most challenging tasks it was having to undertake during the defueling period. In late 1991 while removing fuel from Reactor 22 three fuel elements suffered mechanical damage while being manoeuvred into the skips in our fuel ponds. The material was recovered at the time and placed into a specially designed fuel bottle which was placed into a special skip in the ponds.
- During August the skip was removed and taken to Sellafield, under a special dispensation from our regulators. Safe removal of this fuel marked the passing of another major milestone in site defueling operations.
- On September 1 the station entered a major defueling outage. This is regularly scheduled work and will set us up to deliver the rest of our defueling mission. Although the full outage is planned to run until November, we anticipate resuming defueling operations around the date of the SSG meeting.
- During this outage teams will focus on inspecting welds in key parts of the plant and carrying out critical maintenance on the fuelling machine.

Transfer & Deconstruction Preparations

- At the last SSG meeting attendees briefly discussed the start of onsite groundworks for our future administration building. Works are now progressing and adaptations to site parking arrangements have come into place.
- In July we started work to replace glass windows on our deaerator building. The glass was original to the station build and although it has lasted well the time has come to replace it. New lightweight cladding, as used at other NRS sites, will be fixed to the building in a project we expect to last into 2027.
- Early in September Dungeness B hosted industry and government stakeholders to site to show progress on defueling and discuss future decommissioning plans. Attendees included the Nuclear Liabilities Fund (NLF), Nuclear Decommissioning Authority (NDA), Department for Energy Security and Net Zero (DESNZ) and Nuclear Restoration Services (NRS), alongside colleagues from across EDF Nuclear Decommissioning.

Environmental events

- In July a small hole was identified in a venting system within an auxillary building. Our monitoring equipment has not identified the loss of any contaminated material. As soon as the damage was identified it was repaired.
- During August the Environment Agency carried out an inspection on Environment Leadership and Management of Change, feedback was positive.
- Again in August fuel leak drips were identified to be coming from our auxillary low pressure boiler system, on the conventional, ie non-nuclear, side of the plant.
- During the period our groundwater sampling programme identified warmer water samples than had been expected. The matter is being investigated.

Safety

- In June Dungeness B participated in an exercise, demonstrating to the ONR, the site's resilience in the event of a cyber attack on critical IT systems. The exercise was a success and helps inform future preparatory protective works as the risk to all global infrastructure from cyber attack grows rapidly.
- Teams were warned about the hazards of slips trips and falls after reports of several minor incidents.

Staff

- A new HR director was appointed in July.
- Over recent months our teams have launched a programme of wellness walks. The strolls are a great opportunity for staff to get outside, get some exercise, fresh air and sunshine and perhaps chat with unfamiliar colleagues. The sessions have run since the summer and are proving popular.
- Dungeness B's very own Kunal Ramnatsing, one of our System Engineers, is planning a cycling challenge across the Italian alps this month. To raise funds for the event he hosted a bake sale and collected more than £300.

Community and stakeholder engagement

- Dungeness B supported the Folkestone Coastal 10k in May, when 958 runners tackled the seafront course.



- Support was also provided for the ever popular Lydd Club Day. Staged in June this year's event included the annual Club Day Luncheon and later motorbike stunt displays and the day's parade. Lydd Club Day's 78th Queen, Albany Ashdown was at the heart of the day and was accompanied by her Princesses and Court.



- In July Dungeness B supported the New Romney Country Fayre and in August we also provided some financial support for the Day of Syn. The station has long supported these important local events.

Gavin Lancaster
Station Director
September 2026



Office for
Nuclear Regulation

ONR site report

Nuclear Restoration Services Ltd– Dungeness A

ONR site report

Nuclear Restoration Services Ltd - Dungeness A

Report for period: 1 April 2026 - 30 June 2026

Authored by: ONR Nominated Site Inspector

Approved by: Head of Regulation - DFW

Issue: 1

Published: August 2026

Record reference: SDFW-513672700-53497

Foreword

This report is issued as part of our 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 our website: www.onr.org.uk/publications/regulatory-reports/site-specific-reports/lcsg-reports.

Our site inspectors 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 us via email at contact@onr.gov.uk.

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1. Inspections

1.1. Date(s) of inspection

Our site inspector made inspections on the following dates during the report period 1 April 2026 and 30th June 2026:

16th June 2026

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 covered the following:

- Electrical safety – safe isolations during decommissioning work.

Members of the public who would like further information on our inspection activities during the reporting period can view site inspection records on our website:

www.onr.org.uk/publications/regulatory-reports/site-specific-reports/inspection-records.

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

2.2. Other work

Our site inspector attended the June Site Stakeholder Group meeting.

Our site inspector held periodic meetings with site regarding the decommissioning programme.

3. Non-routine matters

Licensees are required to have arrangements to respond to non-routine matters and events. Our inspectors judge the adequacy of the licensee's response, including actions taken to implement any necessary improvements.

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

4. Regulatory activity

We may issue formal documents to ensure compliance with regulatory requirements. Under nuclear site licence conditions, we issue regulatory documents, which either permit an activity or require some form of action to be taken. These are usually collectively termed licence instruments but can take other forms. In addition, inspectors may take a range of enforcement actions, to include issuing an enforcement notice.

Table 1: Licence instruments and enforcement notices issued by ONR during this period

Date	Type	Reference	Description

Reports detailing the above regulatory decisions can be found on our website:
www.onr.org.uk/publications/regulatory-reports/site-specific-reports/project-assessment-reports.

5. News from ONR

For the latest updates and information on our work, please subscribe to our regular email newsletter, ONR News, at www.onr.org.uk/news/newsletter.

6. Contacts

Office for Nuclear Regulation
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References

There are no sources in the current document.



Office for
Nuclear Regulation

ONR site report

EDF Energy – Dungeness B

ONR site report

EDF Energy – Dungeness B

Report for period: 1 April – 31 August 2026

Authored by: Nominated Site Inspector Dungeness B

Approved by: Joint Head of Regulation - Operating Reactors

Issue: 1

Published: October 2026

Record reference: OPFD-2136780860-65326

Foreword

This report is issued as part of our 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 our website: www.onr.org.uk/publications/regulatory-reports/site-specific-reports/lcsg-reports.

Our site inspectors 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 us via email at contact@onr.gov.uk.

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1. Inspections

1.1. Date(s) of inspection

Our site inspector and other specialist inspectors made inspections/site visits on the following dates during the report period 1 April – 31 August 2026. This period has been adjusted from typical quarterly/six monthly ONR reporting to support the Dungeness B Site Stakeholder Group frequency. The next report will cover inspection activity from 01 September 2026:

22 April

6 May

21-22 May

11 June

7-9 July

26 August

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:

- Emergency arrangements
- Examination inspection maintenance and testing
- conventional (non-nuclear) health and safety
- security

Emergency Arrangements

ONR assessed the licensee's demonstration of its emergency arrangements through a Level 1 exercise at Dungeness B. The exercise provided an appropriate level of challenge and enabled inspectors to sample the effectiveness of command, control, communication and operational response arrangements under demanding conditions. Overall, the licensee demonstrated areas of effective implementation and broadly achieved the intent of the exercise. However, ONR identified shortfalls in aspects of the emergency response, including the management and coordination of some response activities. These shortfalls indicated that the arrangements were not implemented to the standard expected in all areas. On balance, ONR judged the licensee's performance to be not adequate and rated the inspection Amber, requiring improvement - an enforcement letter has been sent to site to this effect (see Regulatory Activity section).

LC28 Examination inspection maintenance and testing

ONR inspected the licensee's arrangements for examination, inspection, maintenance and testing, focusing on the management of fuel route system reliability and associated single point vulnerabilities at Dungeness B. The inspection considered the adequacy of arrangements and their implementation through discussions with station personnel, review of relevant evidence and inspection of facilities. Overall, the licensee demonstrated that arrangements were in place to support the continued reliability of the fuel route system and to manage associated vulnerabilities. ONR identified examples of effective practice, together with some minor observations, which were shared with the site for consideration. Based on the evidence sampled, ONR judged that the licensee had adequately managed fuel route system reliability and associated vulnerabilities. Accordingly, ONR rated the inspection Green, with no formal action required

Construction Design Management and Fire Safety

ONR inspected the licensee's arrangements for compliance with construction design management and fire safety requirements, focusing on the new administration building project at Dungeness B. The inspection considered the adequacy of arrangements and their implementation through discussions with station personnel and review of relevant documentary evidence. Overall, the licensee demonstrated that appropriate arrangements were in place to support compliance with the Construction (Design and Management) Regulations 2015 and the Regulatory Reform (Fire Safety) Order 2005, taking account of the current stage of the project. ONR identified one shortfall associated with the demonstration of principal designer

appointment arrangements, which is being tracked through a regulatory issue. Based on the evidence sampled, ONR judged that the licensee's arrangements were adequate. Accordingly, ONR rated the inspection Green.

Members of the public who would like further information on our inspection activities during the reporting period can view site inspection records on our website:

www.onr.org.uk/publications/regulatory-reports/site-specific-reports/inspection-records.

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

2.2. Other 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.

The site inspector undertook a number of intelligence gathering activities and plant visits including engagement with members of the site's senior leadership team and the site's safety representatives.

3. Non-routine matters

Licensees are required to have arrangements to respond to non-routine matters and events. Our inspectors judge the adequacy of the licensee's response, including actions taken to implement any necessary improvements.

On 6 May during demolition of a redundant concrete base a digger operator suffered a facial injury as a result of being struck by a piece of concrete debris. Although the incident did not meet formal ONR or RIDDOR incident reporting criteria ONR follow up of the incident identified shortfalls with respect to compliance with the Provision and Use of Work Equipment Regulations 1998 and has served an enforcement letter on Dalkia Facilities Ltd (see Regulatory Activity section). ONR inspectors will follow up effectiveness of identified improvement activities as part of normal regulatory business.

4. Regulatory activity

We may issue formal documents to ensure compliance with regulatory requirements. Under nuclear site licence conditions, we issue regulatory documents, which either permit an activity or require some form of action to be taken. These are usually collectively termed licence instruments but can take other forms. In addition, inspectors may take a range of enforcement actions, to include issuing an enforcement notice.

- The following licence instruments, enforcement notices and enforcement letters have been issued during the period:

Table 1: Licence instruments and enforcement notices issued by ONR during this period

Date	Type	Reference	Description
01/06/2026	Enforcement letter	DNB71388R	Letter regarding shortfalls observed during exercise MAVEN
24/08/2026	Enforcement Letter	GEN71478N	Letter to Dalkia Facilities Ltd in response to an event resulting in injury to operative during work at Dungeness B Power Station

5. News from ONR

For the latest updates and information on our work, please subscribe to our regular email newsletter, ONR News, at www.onr.org.uk/news/newsletter.

6. Contacts

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Email: contact@onr.gov.uk

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References

There are no sources in the current document.

Environment Agency Report to the Dungeness Site Stakeholder Group

October 2026

Introduction

This report covers our regulation of Dungeness A and B Sites and related environmental matters for the period May 2026 - September 2026.

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.

Site Regulation

Dungeness A

We have regular calls with Senior Managers at Dungeness A to ensure we are kept up to date with the progress on decommissioning, regulatory actions and recommendations and emerging issues at the site. On 3rd September, we attended the quarterly site update meeting jointly with the Office for Nuclear Regulation (ONR). This meeting covering April to June 2026 had been rescheduled due to unforeseen circumstances and site availability constraints. We discussed waste project updates and projects planned for 2026, including progress on the Boilers Down programme. These meetings allow us to focus our regulatory resource on upcoming activities at the site. Our next meeting will take place in October and we will provide any updates at the next SSG.

Inspections

On 15th and 16th September, we carried out an inspection on minor aqueous discharge routes and the Pollution Inventory. The purpose of this inspection was to assess how Nuclear Restoration Services (NRS) Limited manage liquid effluent arisings and carries out its Pollution Inventory to ensure compliance with the permit and other environmental legal requirements. The inspection was comprised of a review of documentation received in advance of the visit to site, an assessment of relevant procedures and parts of the management system, and discussions with key personnel. We are in the process of concluding our inspection and will issue our regulatory report in due course.

On 23rd and 25th June, we carried out an inspection on the Pond Skips characterisation programme. Due to the Met Office national red weather alert, the inspection was completed virtually via MS Teams. The purpose of this inspection was to assess NRS Limited's strategic and technical approach to pond skip management at Dungeness A to support future disposal. The inspection was comprised of a review of documentation received in advance of the inspection, an assessment of relevant procedures and parts of the management system, and discussions with key personnel, to understand how arrangements are executed in practice. On 3rd September, we completed a site walkdown of the Ponds Facility. We did not identify any non-compliances with the permit as a result of our inspection. We have issued our regulatory decision (RASCAR) and have provided a number of recommendations, good practices and observations.

We have produced our regulatory decision (RASCAR) following our Q4 25/26 inspection on Lower Activity Waste (LAW) arrangements. We did not find any non-compliances with the permit as a result of the inspection, and we have provided a number of recommendations, good practices and observations.

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 11 and 12 August 2026, we carried out an inspection of environmental leadership and organisational capability at Dungeness B. The purpose of the inspection was to assess whether the site's leadership, management arrangements and environmental capability were sufficient to ensure compliance with its environmental permits. The inspection included a review of relevant documentation, management arrangements and governance processes, together with discussions with key personnel. We found evidence of strong leadership, effective decision-making and a positive learning culture, with environmental considerations embedded across site operations. The inspection also identified a strong commitment to training and maintaining environmental expertise. No environmental permit non-compliances were identified. We noted plans to develop a site-wide risk register as a positive step to further strengthen risk management and identified several internal initiatives as examples of good practice that support engagement, knowledge sharing and continuous improvement.

Events and Enforcement

Dungeness A

Closure of Regulatory Actions

NRS Limited has provided sufficient information for the closure of multiple regulatory actions, following our enforcement decision for a number of events we have previously reported to the SSG. We have issued RASCARs to confirm the closure of a total of eleven actions associated with: the Site Techniques Document event, the Wet Waste Transfer Facility event and our Q3 25/26 inspection on resource and capability. At present, NRS Limited have three outstanding actions, across two compliance reports, and we will continue to monitor performance through our regular engagement.

Reactor 2 Steam Pit event

On 18th August, NRS Limited informed us of a potential event regarding groundwater within the Reactor 2 Steam Pit. There is a potential that the water has breached equilibrium with the groundwater table. We are aware that NRS Limited is pumping the water from the pits, to manage this for disposal via the Active Effluent Water Treatment Plant. NRS are keeping the Environment Agency and the Office for Nuclear Regulation informed. We will continue to engage jointly with this matter and will keep the SSG informed.

Dungeness B

No current non compliances or enforcement activities to report.

Environmental Permitting

Dungeness A

There are no further updates relating to environmental permitting at Dungeness A since our previous SSG report.

Dungeness B

We had a meeting with DNB to discuss plans to ensure permits are ready for permit transfer. This will be an ongoing engagement over the next few years to ensure transition of permits can occur when required.

Discharge Reports

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

Dungeness A

Dungeness A 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.

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 conduct 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 programme returns required to us on time, however we received the following notifications:

On 19 June 2026, Dungeness B reported to the Environment Agency that not all herbage samples were able to be obtained for the Environmental Monitoring Programme Q2 returns. Overgrazing of the grass has meant that no sample was able to be collected from one of the locations. The remaining four herbage samples were collected and reported.

On 10 September 2026, Dungeness A reported a mean +4 sigma result for Cs-137 on a tacky shade for the month of August. The result is marginally above the limit of detection and below historical known levels in the area from the government independent monitoring programme, Radioactivity in Food and the Environment (RIFE). NRS Limited are currently investigating the potential cause of the elevated sample.

Other Environment Agency updates

Nuclear Regulatory Taskforce

In February 2025 Government [announced](#) its plans for nuclear energy, including setting up a review of nuclear regulation. The Nuclear Regulatory Taskforce reported directly to the Prime Minister and was led by John Fingleton. Read about [its role and Terms of Reference](#).

The Environment Agency is helping deliver the Nuclear Regulatory Taskforce recommendations to create a more effective, proportionate and coordinated regulatory system that supports nuclear growth, net zero, innovation and energy security while maintaining robust environmental protection and public confidence

- We are contributing to a safe and sustainable nuclear industry that acts in the best interests of society and the environment by shaping and delivering a modern, proportionate nuclear regulatory system.
- Working in partnership, we are helping create a more efficient and coordinated regulatory experience while maintaining independent environmental oversight.
- Lasting reform requires both regulatory improvements and a culture that supports faster, proportionate and outcome focussed decision-making.

Link to [supporting messages](#)

We published our response to the Chancellor of the Exchequer's letter (March 2026) to nuclear industry CEOs which asked how we are implementing the Nuclear Regulatory Taskforce Review.

The letter sets out how the Environment Agency is planning to improve the pace, predictability and proportionality of nuclear regulation while maintaining high standards of environmental protection and public confidence. Read about how we're building a more co-ordinated, risk-informed and outcome-focussed regulatory system that supports growth and energy security. [Implementing nuclear regulatory taskforce review: letter from Philip Duffy to Chancellor of the Exchequer - GOV.UK](#)

Further information

EA business plan

This business plan lists our priorities for the 2026 to 2027 financial year. It outlines how we'll work towards the goals in our corporate strategy [Environment Agency business plans - 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 section of the GOV.UK website www.gov.uk/topic/environmental-management/nuclear-regulation

Follow our Environment Agency Linked in page for news and information about regulating radioactive substances <https://www.linkedin.com/showcase/regulating-radioactive-substances>

All our open consultations will appear on this webpage [Nuclear consultations - Environment Agency - Citizen Space](#)

Contacts

The Environment Agency's Regulator's for the Dungeness A site are Vanessa McKay (Lead Regulator) and Miriam Allardice (Assistant Regulator). The Environment Agency's Lead Regulator for the Dungeness B site is Kezia White and Nicol Caplin has joined as a Developing Nuclear Regulator.

Vanessa, Miriam, Nicol, and Kezia carry out 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.

Contact details for Dungeness A regulators

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