



**DUNGENESS A SITE AND B POWER STATION
SITE STAKEHOLDER GROUP MEETING WEDNESDAY 4 FEBRUARY 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 – IAN CUTHBERT,
SITE DIRECTOR
- DUNGENESS B'S STATION DIRECTOR'S REPORT & EIADR UPDATE,
GAVIN LANCASTER, STATION DIRECTOR
- ONR REPORT FOR DUNG A – KATHARINE WALKER ONR INSPECTOR
- ONR REPORT FOR DUNG B – JASON CROOK ONR INSPECTOR
- ENVIRONMENTAL UPDATE FOR DUNGENESS A AND DUNGENESS B
- VANESSA McKAY A / MIRIAM ALLARDICE EA INSPECTOR
- NICOL CAPLIN EA INSPECTOR, DUNGENESS B
- NDA UPDATE – (not attending)
- ANY OTHER BUSINESS
- DATE OF NEXT MEETING 25 JUNE

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**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE
DUNGENESS SITE STAKEHOLDER GROUP (SSG)
HELD AT DUNGENESS B POWER STATION, ROMNEY MARSH, TN29 9PX
THURSDAY 23 OCTOBER 2025**

Attendance/Apologies list

In attendance

Graham Finn	Chair
Bill Hamilton	NRS
Kayleigh Ridley	NRS
Carl Welsh	NRS
Miriam Allardice	Environment Agency (attended virtually)
Claire Bruce	Resident
Gavin Lancaster	Station Director, Dungeness B
Spencer Bashford	EDF
Matthew Pardo	EDF
Kezia White	Environment Agency
Nicol Carlin	Environment Agency
Diane Gelon	Dungeness Residents Association
Duncan Edwards	Amentum UK
Adam Feacey	Kent County Council
Cllr Tony Hills	Folkestone & Hythe District Council
Jo Wynn-Carter	Folkestone & Hythe District Council
Cllr Paul Thomas	Romney Marsh Partnership
Cllr Paul Redstone	East Sussex County Council
Peter Williams	Liverpool University
Alyson Shaw	Careers and Work Experience Coordinator, Marsh Academy
Jane Wilson	Member of the Public
Clive Wilson	Member of the Public
Geoffrey Dore	Minute Taker

Apologies

Katharine Walker	ONR Inspector, Dungeness A Site
Ken Obbard	Natural England
John McNamara	NDA
Jason Crook	ONR Inspector, Dungeness B Site
Vanessa McKay	Environment Agency
Cllr Keith Glazer	East Sussex County Council
Cllr Alan Martin	Lydd Town Council
Ian Cuthbert	Site Director, Dungeness A
Ray Johnson	Kent Invicta Chamber of Commerce
Tudor Price	Kent Invicta Chamber of Commerce
Cllr David Godfrey	Vice Chair
Louise Barton	Lydd Airport Action Group
Cllr Bob Jones	Lydd town council
Cllr Jean Jones	Lydd town council

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Cllr Stephen Scoffham
Jo Cowdrey
Cllr Peter Coe

Folkestone and Hythe District Council
Creative Folkestone/Dungeness Resident
New Romney Town Council

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1. INTRODUCTION

The Chair opened the meeting at 10.02.

Gavin Lancaster provided the safety message.

The Chair welcomed the new attendees.

2. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies were noted from Katharine Walker, Ken Obbard, John McNamara, Jason Crook, Vanessa McKay, Keith Glazer, Alan Martin, Ian Cuthbert, Ray Johnson, Tudor Price, David Godfrey Louise Barton, Bob Jones, Jean Jones, Stephen Scoffham, Jo Cowdrey and Peter Coe.

3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The Chair invited comments on the minutes.

Tony Hills referred to the sentence 'Tony Hills noted that two of the bays had recommended no bathing due to water quality'. He clarified that there was only one bay, and there were three beaches, of which one was causing concern. He had engaged in dialogue with officers from the EA who had stated that the water quality would not be affected by the new sewage plant on the B site.

Subject to the above amendment, the minutes were agreed as a true and fair representation of the meeting.

4. MATTERS ARISING

The Chair noted that Tony Hills's comments on the minutes of the previous meeting had addressed the action for Vanessa McKay to consult with colleagues regarding possible effluent contamination. Action Closed

Alyson Shaw was attending on behalf of the Marsh Academy. Action Closed

Paul Thomas was attending on behalf of the Romney Marsh Partnership. Action closed

5. CORRESPONDENCE

The Chair reported that he had sent out the planning application for the boiler down project for Dungeness A. A link for the planning portal had been circulated.

Local residents had received an invitation to visit the NRS trailer.

The Chair had written to the NDA to ask if the SSG terms of reference would cover the solar farm grid connection coming into the Dungeness sub-station. The NDA had clarified that the solar farm was not within the remit of the group to discuss, as the grid sub-station was outside of the nuclear licence site.

6. CHAIR'S REPORT

The Chair stated that he had attended several meetings to discuss the NDA's strategy document. He had decided not to include any comments on behalf of the SSG, as the strategy document did not contradict any of the SSG's plans.

The Chair had attended the EA's 'meet the regulator' meeting.

He had also conducted work on the constitution for the SSG. The constitution included comments from the EDF and NDA. One change involved site directors being allowed to bring along a subject matter expert, rather than a supply chain representative, to a meeting. The constitution had also been amended to state that the SSG could not provide formal advice but could provide operators with points for consideration, while the secretariat could only circulate documentation to members that originated from the Chair or the site directors. Paul Thomas asked if the amendments included input from the wider SSG review performed during the last year. The Chair confirmed that the constitution had been updated to support the document generated during the wider review.

7. DUNGENESS A SITE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Carl Welsh presented the report on behalf of Ian Cuthbert.

The NRS roadshow trailer was visiting Dungeness. Over the last few months, there had been a litter pick day and Great British Beach Clean with good turnout from the site. Six staff members had volunteered to paint the gorilla enclosures at Port Lympne Wild Animal Park. Kayleigh Ridley noted that she was the neighbourly/volunteering champion for the site, and members should email her should they have any potential organisations or charities for consideration.

Carl Welsh reported that Dungeness A was working on a site sustainability plan and hoped to issue this in the next few months. The site had received a fire enforcement notice and had complied with all requirements. There was ongoing work on the site to install new fire escapes, and no work would take place in the plant until the work was completed. Works were due to be completed in November or December. A safety day had been held across the site. ONR carried out a site intervention focused on public dose calculations and were satisfied with the site's approach, resulting in a green rating.

A non-rad permit variation had been submitted to the EA for determination, and a response was not expected for at least six to 12 months.

The old stores building was being dismantled. The new stores building had been handed over, and work was taking place on the final business case for the boiler down project. All enabling project demolitions of conventional buildings should be completed by December. Electrical isolation work continued, and the site continued to prepare to demolish the DAMAL lab. The active drains removal work was ongoing.

R1 cladding strengthening works had been completed in September, while R2 cladding work was 60% complete. The solid Intermediate Level Waste (ILW) package facility had been site tested, and the plant had started the commissioning phase. Borderline wet waste site enabling works were ongoing, while cyclone dust waste samples had been sent to the National Nuclear Laboratory (NNL) radiological laboratory for characterisation analysis. Improvements to the sludge retrieval fill-house were underway, delays had occurred due to the discovery of underground services, and the work was likely to be completed by the end of December.

Two Low-Level Waste (LLW) HEPA filters had been shipped to Auger, while five legacy scaffold shipments had been dispatched to UNITECH. 92te of non-hazardous waste and 12te of hazardous waste had been removed from the site in 2025. Regarding high activity waste (HAW), the first type VI had been conditioned. The legacy Bradwell Caesium Retrieval Unit (CRU) waste had been successfully disposed of.

Dungeness A was developing its five-year business plan and would likely receive sign-off in the next two months.

Carl Welsh highlighted socioeconomic funding for 2025 and reported that £33,000 had been donated to the Romney Marsh Partnership Officer role. The site had also contributed £3,000

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to Rye Harbour Sailability for the purchase of a Wheelyboat. The Chair invited members to suggest local organisations that required funding for equipment.

Claire Bruce asked how close an organisation needed to be situated to Dungeness to be able to apply for funding. Kayleigh Ridley said she will check the official radius for applications.

Tony Hills asked if there could be a part contribution towards the new village hall. The Chair suggested that Tony Hills speak to Bill Hamilton regarding bigger contributions.

Paul Thomas noted the concerns regarding bathing water quality across Romney Bay and asked Carl Welsh if he was satisfied that the package sewage plant was operating within limits and was not contributing to poor water quality in the area. Carl Welsh stated that Dungeness A does test frequently, and all tests had shown that the plant was operating within limits. There had been no issues in relation to maintenance or useability.

The Chair referred to the three-month look-ahead and asked when the DAMAL building would be demolished. Carl Welsh said demolition on the building would not start until the next financial year. An update would be provided at the next SSG.

8. DUNGENESS B SITE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Gavin Lancaster presented his report.

The site's teams were now able to remove fuel from the reactors under cold conditions. R21 would be safely defueled at the end of 2026 or the start of 2027. Work would then commence on defueling R22 which would be complete by the end of 2029. After this point, EDF would transfer the site to NRS, and Dungeness A and Dungeness B would operate as two separate business entities.

As Dungeness B progressed through its defueling journey, there would be a reduction in workforce. Teams currently located in Eureka Leisure Park would relocate back to the power station over the next nine months as Dungeness B builds a new administration building. The site's occupational health facility had been relocated and was now situated near the security building and administration building turnstile. There had been an all-leaders away day to discuss mental health. A session had also been held with Mind and the Alzheimer's Society. Discussions had taken place regarding retaining nuclear-trained operators and individuals. Discussions had also addressed building a skills academy.

In June, a small amount of exhaust gases, below limits set by the EA, were released due to a hole in weather shielding from the active laundry duct. The regulator was notified and repairs were carried out, along with a review across other discharge systems.

Two individuals had experienced injuries on site. One staff member had tripped while walking the site perimeter, while another had suffered a minor head injury whilst working on a tambour unit. Both individuals had since returned to work. EDF had submitted a planning application to extend the life of the shingle extraction programme from the borrow pit. Dungeness B had conducted a litter pick, which had been well attended.

The new sewage treatment plant was working effectively and was retaining discharges within environmental limits. While Gavin Lancaster recognised Tony Hills's previous challenge in this area, the plant was being monitored, and he was confident that it was working effectively.

Tony Hills referred to the new sewage treatment plant and said the EA would have to reconsider discharges, as public pressure had grown regarding what was acceptable practice. He requested an update on the application to extend the life of the shingle extraction from the borrow pit. Gavin Lancaster stated that the site had originally considered applying for permission to take 40,000- 45,000 cubic metres of shingle a year, but following the environmental impact assessment, had reduced the expected take accordingly.

Tony Hills noted that the EA's report included a link for climate change. There were challenges, such as potential hurricanes by 2080, while 100-mph winds would present a challenge for defences. He hoped that the site was engaging with companies such as Van Oord. He

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anticipated that a friendlier approach would involve a hydraulic process for sucking the shingle by the borrow pit before bringing it round the site, bi-annually, and then pumping it back onto the beach. Gavin Lancaster said it was being tracked accordingly. The site was committed to maintaining the minimum level of shingle protection in front of the stations for the next 15 years.

9. ONR REPORT FOR DUNGENESS A

It was noted that Katharine Walker had offered her apologies.

10. ONR REPORT FOR DUNGENESS B

It was noted that Jason Crook had offered his apologies.

11. ENVIRONMENTAL UPDATE FOR DUNGENESS A AND DUNGENESS B

Kezia White presented her report for Dungeness B.

The EA had reviewed the site's event discharge route event, and Dungeness B's response had been positive and timely. The EA's compliance assessment process had recorded three category 3 non-compliances with the RSR permit. Category 3 events are minor events with minimal impact on the environment, category 4 events are mainly related to errors in paperwork. This information was provided to allow people to understand the severity of the event.

The EA would conduct an inspection in November in relation to defueling discharges and disposals of solid radioactive waste.

Tony Hills commended the work of the EA and stressed the importance of doing the best job for Dungeness. Regarding the sewage effluent outputs, while he did not disagree with the technicalities, it was out of date. He suggested that the treatment of sewage effluent be considered at a higher level within the EA. He also recommended that the EA update its report on climate change.

Paul Thomas said the EA had appeared to have pushed back on receiving international assistance on the discharges. This approach was impacting local populations, environments and economies. Kezia White said the EA's guidance was risk-based and has limited resources.

Paul Thomas said Ofwat did not appear to be as effective as the EA or the ONR, and this needed to change. Littlestone could lose its bathing water designation, which would be a complete disaster. Kezia White agreed it is an issue if the water quality in the area is impacting on Bathing Water designations and has seen similar situations elsewhere in the UK. She agreed to raise concerns about the water quality with the Area Environment Agency team during the EA's annual area review meeting.

Tony Hills highlighted a distinct lack of front-facing activity from the EA. The EA did not want to meet residents. While Kezia White was engaging, the EA was not as engaging on other problem areas.

Gavin Lancaster stated that Kezia White was being held accountable for matters beyond her remit. The Chair noted that Kezia White's remit had been stretched. She had received valid points beyond her remit and suggested that she share them with her organisation.

Miriam Allardice presented her report for Dungeness A.

The site's environmental monitoring programme had been inspected in July. Although no non-compliances had been identified, several recommendations had been issued. Engagement had continued with the site regarding its management of aqueous waste. The EA had received the best available technique (BAT) assessment for the management of the

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reactor void water. Comments had been shared with the site and colleagues who were currently assessing a variation concerning the existing Waste Discharge Activity permit. A copy of the updated holistic overview of aqueous waste was expected in the next calendar year.

The EA had issued its regulatory decision for the two events concerning stack issues. Dungeness A had been assigned several actions to complete to bring the site back into compliance, in addition to regulatory actions that were due at yearend.

The radiological permit variation was in the determining phase. The site currently had an information notice, and the EA awaited further information, to enable it to continue the determination.

Gavin Lancaster asked if Dungeness A's medium active laboratory assessment was related to qualification of the area. Carl Welsh explained that it concerned removing the current discharge routes from the permit. The characterisation was required as part of the demolition works.

12. NDA UPDATE

It was noted that John McNamara had circulated his report.

13. NRS CORPORATE UPDATE

Bill Hamilton presented his report.

Ian Cuthbert and the lead teams at all sites had been working on the detail of the overall envelope of government funding, to ascertain how the funding would impact all sites. The five-year programme would be presented at the next SSG.

Community engagement had taken place in Rye and New Romney with a roadshow. Bill Hamilton noted that residents in Rye had expressed positive views regarding the site, as well as a strong demand for new nuclear.

A deep dive into communities was to take place, there would be three focus groups, covering 16 to 24-year-olds, adults aged 25 and over and SSG representatives. The focus groups would be led by Thinks Insight, which would then produce a report. Thinks Insight would also poll 150 people via telephone calls.

NRS had launched a mutual voluntary exit scheme, which would remain open until mid-December. An individual within the company had recently died by suicide, and NRS would double down on its suicide prevention activities. Tony Hills noted how Dungeness was a unique site, stating NRS should continue its positive work, commending their approach.

Paul Thomas asked if the SSG would be taken off site and into the local community. The Chair said while the SSG had attempted to hold meetings off site, it had found that they were better attended on site. Paul Thomas proposed that some SSG meetings be held at the Maude Community Centre. Alyson Shaw stated that Marsh Academy could also hold some meetings. The chair said they would look at holding the AGM in the local community.

Alyson Shaw asked how members for the focus groups would be selected. Bill Hamilton responded that Thinks Insight would select the focus groups. There would be a bias towards young people. Thinks Insight would use a specialist recruitment agency, though there were clear rules in terms of race, gender and class. Individuals would receive a £75 payment. NRS had no input into the individuals selected. Alyson Shaw said several local 16 to 24-year-olds, particularly some who attended Marsh Academy, would be ideal candidates for the exercise. Tony Hills suggested that NRS work with Marsh Academy in this area. Bill Hamilton agreed to contact Thinks Insight and respond to Alyson Shaw.

14. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

The Chair thanked those present for attending and closed the meeting at 11.33.

Next Meeting date: February 2026

Dungeness Site Stakeholder Group - EDF Report

January 2026

Station Director's Message January 2026

2026 marks 43 years of nuclear operations at Dungeness B. While we're enormously proud of everything we have achieved in that time it has become clear in the last few months that as our plant ages we're seeing increasing issues with equipment reliability. Of course over our many years of operations much of the plant has been increased or upgraded. But there are some things that we are now working harder in defueling than we ever did when generating. That increased activity brings increased equipment pressures and occasions where, although our people are ready, our plant delays defueling activities. To that end we are launching a specific programme to review key pieces of plant, identify potential issues before they hamper our work and develop rapid repair programmes. It does not mean we will have an incident free defueling journey but it does mean we can hope for smoother progress.

Onsite works

- Dungeness B entered its defueling phase in June 2021. This work involves the careful removal of nuclear fuel from the reactor. Our reactors hold 407 channels of fuel in Unit 21 and 408 in Unit 22.
- Once removed the spent fuel is then moved to our cooling ponds where it is placed into what we call skips. Once full the skips are moved into flasks and transported offsite to Sellafield.
- By the middle of January 2026, and since we started defueling operations in May 2023, we have removed fuel from a total of 193 channels across the two reactors.
- In early January the ONR confirmed that Hinkley Point B was free of nuclear fuel. This means that Dungeness is now the only station in full defueling which means the station will not expect further delays to its defueling programme due to other EDF requirements.
- In late October issues emerged with equipment in our cooling ponds which helps with moving fuel into the area. Repairs were completed by the middle of November and fuel, which had been removed from a reactor and held temporarily in an intermediate area, was shifted to the ponds.
- In late 2025 it was decided to delay the 2026 fuel route outage from April 2026 to September. This will give the power station more time to define precisely what works will be done during the outage and will reduce defueling schedule pressure across teams and resources.

Defueling Operations

- On Wednesday, December 17, Dungeness dispatched its final three fuel flasks of the year, bringing the total to 34 out of 50 planned for 2025. As discussed at previous SSGs this lower rate was due to an EDF fleet focus on completing defueling activities at other EDF sites and Dungeness equipment reliability issues in 2025.
- In early January the station returned to defueling operations following a short defueling outage. During this outage the station undertook several specific pieces of work on the fueling machine to ensure future reliability. In the first week of the year the station also dispatched its first fuel flask. The aim for 2026 is to defuel 175 fuel channels and dispatch 80 flasks of fuel to Sellafield.

Transfer & Deconstruction Preparations

- The demolition of the former Visitor Centre has been completed and the site has taken delivery of the new Engineering building, with 20 slices individually transported and lifted into position next to the Chemistry building ready for fit out.
- Progress continues to be made on plans for the new administration building. Folkestone and Hythe District Council has issued draft conditions for EDF to review and a planning permission decision is anticipated within the coming weeks. If approved, construction works are likely to start on site by the summer.
- Discussions are being held with Kent County Council over EDF's planning permission request related to future shingle movements. It is currently anticipated that the county council will determine the planning application in Spring 2026.
- Work is also continuing on the station's EIADR programme. Initial works have been completed and a public consultation is now planned in March and April. The first will be on Tuesday, March 24, between 11am-5pm at the Maude Community Centre in New Romney and the second will be on Saturday, March 28, between 11am-5pm at Lydd Community Centre. Further information will be circulated to residents nearer the time of the events.

Staff update

- During recent months Dungeness B has started to collaborate with East Kent College, The Kent Chamber of Commerce and the Department of Work and Pensions on staff training programmes designed to prepare those looking to move out of nuclear into other industries. The work starts in late March.
- In the coming months the site is also hosting development teams from the Sizewell C project in Suffolk, who will spell out what opportunities the project has for those with nuclear and construction experience.

Environmental events

- Between Christmas and New Year work was undertaken to fill a boiler fuel oil tank with fuel. But during the course of the filling a quantity of fuel oil escaped. All the material was captured in purpose-built bunds, specifically created to hold oil if a leak from a tank occurred. The oil was recovered and the bund returned to service. We reported the incident to the ONR and the EA because this type of event falls under both environmental and health and safety regulations.

Safety

- In November a staff member was exposed to carbon dioxide during survey work around the CO₂ Pumphouse. The event occurred as venting equipment had been partially blocked by site works. This resulted in less dispersion of the gas and subsequently exposure to carbon dioxide for the individual.

- On Tuesday, November 25 the station was presented with good news following the Annual Review of Safety, Security, Safeguards & Environment. The Office for Nuclear Regulation and the Environment Agency were both involved in the check which examined the station's safety, security and operational performance during the period 1 September 2024 – 31 August 2025. The review did not identify any issues and the ONR feedback outlined the 'positively improving picture' at Dungeness B.
- In December, and during works on the return to service, of one of the plants' boilers an operating technician suffered minor injuries after a swing gate welded stop failed, requiring them to drop to the floor from approximately one metre. The person working had a hold on a side rail and another on the swing gate when a weld holding the swing gate in place failed. The worker dropped to the floor but landed on their feet. First Aid was given following a graze to the hand and a dull pain in one ankle but the team member returned to work under observation for the remainder of the shift.

Community

- Just before the last meeting of the SSG Dungeness B welcomed three members of Kent County Council's Reform administration to the power station. The members were there to understand more about the work being done at the station and to hear about the possibility of new development at Dungeness.
- And on December 5 Ashford MP Sojan Joseph visited Dungeness to understand more about the work that goes on at the power station.



- As ever the run up to Christmas saw a range of activities across the site. A raffle was held to raise money for the company charity the Alzheimer's Society. There was also a Christmas Lunch and Christmas Jumper Week, also raising funds for the Alzheimer's Society. There was also efforts across the station to undertake activity for local causes. An appeal by the local Salvation Army to collect toys was well supported.

Gavin Lancaster
Station Director
January 2026

PUTSIMPLY

EIADR: Environmental Impact Assessment for Nuclear Reactor Decommissioning



THE TOPIC

- EIADR is a UK legislation that ensures the environmental impacts of decommissioning nuclear reactors are thoroughly assessed before any decommissioning work begins.
- EIADR ensures transparency, environmental protection, and public involvement in nuclear decommissioning. It helps maintain high safety and environmental standards while supporting responsible project delivery.
- EDF Energy have commenced work on the Dungeness B EIADR application this year.
- EDF plan to consult with the public on the decommissioning proposals in the first half of 2026, concurrent with making a preapplication scoping opinion request to ONR (dates/venues TBC to be communicated in due course).



THE KEY POINTS

Consent Required before Start Decommissioning:

- Any nuclear reactor decommissioning project started after 19 November 1999 must obtain consent from the Office for Nuclear Regulation (ONR) before work begins

Environmental Statement:

- Applicants must submit a detailed environmental statement outlining potential impacts and proposed mitigation measures

Public and Stakeholder Consultation:

- EIADR mandates early engagement with the public, local authorities, environmental bodies, and other stakeholders to inform the assessment process

Monitoring and Reporting:

- Once consent is granted, licensees must implement an Environmental Management Plan (EMP), report progress annually, and update mitigation strategies as needed

Changes to Projects:

- If a project changes or extends in a way that could significantly affect the environment, a new determination and possibly a fresh assessment are required under Regulation 13

Key planned dates:

- Preapplication Scoping Opinion to ONR/Rd 1 Public Consultation – Feb/March 26
 - Rd 2 public consultation – Oct 26
 - Environmental Statement submission to ONR – Jul 27



Q1: What is EIADR and why is it important?

A: EIADR stands for the [Nuclear Reactors \(Environmental Impact Assessment for Decommissioning\) Regulations](#). It ensures that before any nuclear reactor is decommissioned, its potential environmental impacts are carefully assessed and managed. This protects local communities and the environment from unintended consequences.

Q2: Who oversees the EIADR process?

A: [The Office for Nuclear Regulation \(ONR\)](#) is responsible for administering EIADR. They review environmental statements, consult with stakeholders, and decide whether a decommissioning project can proceed.

Q3: Will the public be consulted before a nuclear site is decommissioned?

A: Yes. [Public consultation is a key part of the EIADR process](#). Local communities, environmental groups, and other stakeholders are invited to review and comment on the environmental statement before ONR makes a decision.

Q4: What kind of environmental impacts are assessed?

A: The assessment looks at potential effects on a broad and comprehensive range of environmental aspects; air, water, soil, ecology and biodiversity, human health, and local infrastructure. [It also considers how these impacts can be avoided, reduced, or offset.](#)

Q5: What happens if the project changes after it starts?

A: If there's a significant change or extension to the project, the [licensee must reassess the environmental impact and seek a new determination from ONR under Regulation 13](#). This ensures ongoing protection of the environment

Q6: What happens if a site doesn't follow EIADR rules?

A: Non-compliance can result in enforcement action by ONR. The regulations are legally binding, and failure to meet requirements can halt a project or lead to penalties

Q7: How will I find out when the consultation is live and the venues to be used

A: The SSG will be provided with an update. In addition to this EDF plan to do a [social media campaign and promote the event through letter drops and similar](#).





Office for
Nuclear Regulation

ONR site report

EDF Energy – Dungeness B

ONR site report

EDF Energy – Dungeness B

Report for period: 01 October – 31 December 2025

Authored by: Nominated Site Inspector Dungeness B

Approved by: Joint Head of Regulation - Operating Reactors

Issue: 1

Published: Feb 2026

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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 on the following dates during the report period 01 October – 31 December 2025:

21 – 22 October

27 November

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 (DNB) covered the following:

- examination, maintenance, inspection and testing
- management of operations including control and supervision (operating rules)
- emergency preparedness

ONR along the Environment Agency attended the sites annual review of safety, security and environment during which the sites performance in the prior 12 months was reviewed. ONR was satisfied that DNB has continued to sustain its improved

performance across the period, while noting some specific areas where the site should continue to focus its efforts.

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

In addition, 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.

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.

- No licence instruments, enforcement notices or enforcement letters were issued during this period.

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
Redgrave Court
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Merseyside
L20 7HS
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References

There are no sources in the current document.

Environment Agency Report to the Dungeness Site Stakeholder Group

February 2026

Introduction

This report covers our regulation of Dungeness A and B Sites and related environmental matters for the period October 2025 – January 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. We meet jointly with the Office for Nuclear Regulation (ONR) for quarterly update meetings with the Site. At the most recent meeting on 12th November, we discussed waste project updates and projects planned for 2026, including progress and future planning for Boilers Down. These meetings allow us to focus our regulatory resource on upcoming activities at the site.

Inspections

On 12th and 13th November, we carried out an inspection on Suitably Qualified and Experienced Persons (SQEP). The purpose of this inspection was to review how NRS Limited assess, manage and maintain sufficient competent persons and resources, against their Nuclear Baseline, to ensure it is resilient and sufficient to maintain compliance with the Dungeness A Permit. 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, to understand how competence and resources are managed in practice. We are in the process of concluding our inspection and will issue our regulatory report in due course.

Aqueous Waste Management

We have continued our engagement with the Operator on their management of current and future arisings of aqueous waste. We are expecting a copy of an updated holistic overview of aqueous waste and will continue to update the SSG on our discussions with the Operator.

The Active Effluent Water Treatment Plant (AEWTP) has recently experienced issues with the presence of particulate. Low activity water was held safely in the system whilst the Dungeness A prioritised further analysis and installation of finer filters. The use of finer filters and re-circulation of the effluent has enabled the site to dispose of the effluent in compliance with the relevant Permits. Dungeness A are continuing investigations to the source of the particulate and are working with NRS central commercial team to send further samples of the particulate for off-site analysis. We continue to engage with Dungeness A to ensure that Best Available Technique arrangements are implemented and maintained and any impacts are understood and known for the Water Discharge Activity permit variation that is with the Environment Agency for determination. We will continue to update the SSG on our discussions with the Operator.

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.

Events and Enforcement

Dungeness A

Stack Events

We have received responses to regulatory actions given to the Operator in response to a number of stack-related events that we have previously reported to the SSG, namely a hole in the reactor blowdown discharge stack (R1A), a small crack on the Magnox Dissolution Plant (MXD) and a gaseous flow coming from a joint of the Wet Waste Transfer Facility (WWTF) ventilation plant. DNA have carried out their own self-audit of asset management arrangements and identified a number of areas that require addressing to meet NRS corporate expectations and the Environment Agency's. Dungeness A have provided an action plan and timeline to resolve issues and we continue to engage with Dungeness A regarding this matter. We are in the process of reviewing the information received from the Operator, and will provide our regulatory decision to the Operator in due course. We will continue to update the SSG as the matter progresses.

Dungeness B

Active Laundry duct degradation

Following on from the issue raised in the previous SSG report regarding the HV25 system leak, the site responded appropriately to the non-compliances. They have completed walk

downs of all the discharge routes and found areas to improve maintenance plans to ensure future maintenance activities are improved. The final radioactive substances activities compliance assessment report (RASCAR) was issued on the 19th November with three category three non-compliances recorded.

Gas circulator waste oil

During routine clearance checks, samples were taken from ten Gas Circulator Oil holding tanks located within the Radiologically Controlled Area (RCA). These checks are carried out to confirm that the oil is suitable for disposal as non-radioactive material. Seven of the ten tanks failed to meet the required clearance levels, and the remaining three were close to the threshold. Consequently, the oil cannot be classified as “out of scope” and will be managed as radioactive waste. To prevent further contamination, the main waste oil tank in the RCA has been embargoed, and no additional oil is being added.

In response, the operations team has been informed, and interim measures have been implemented, including the placement of a dedicated drum on the bund to collect gas circulator oil from leaks and maintenance activities. An investigation is underway to determine the root cause of the clearance failures, and findings will be shared once available.

Looking ahead, the site has adopted a conservative approach to manage the situation. A work pack will be raised to facilitate the safe emptying of the embargoed tank, and a detailed plan for removal and disposal will be developed. A formal briefing will be issued once the investigation is complete and the next steps are confirmed.

Environmental Permitting

Dungeness A

We have now determined the radioactive substances permit variation concerning the addition of ‘Wet Waste Transfer Facility’ as an approved gaseous disposal outlet, and the removal of the gaseous disposal outlet ‘Dungeness A Medium Active Laboratory (DAMAL), which will come into effect on 1st March 2026.

Dungeness B

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

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 in line with requirements of the environmental permits.

On 10 November 2025, Dungeness B reported to the Environment Agency a data gap in the Environmental Monitoring Programme Q3 returns owing to an individual herbage sample erroneously not counted on the gamma spectrometer. As a result, only partial data were provided in this instance. Action was taken by site to inform the ESG Team Lead to reinforce standards to ensure the weekly handovers are followed and the collection log updated. A condition report was also raised to capture the event.

Retrospective annual dose assessment

On the 18 December 2025 the Environment Agency received the Public Radiation Dose in the Vicinity of EDF Nuclear Power Stations for 2024 (Ref: ESS/1300/JA). This correspondence fulfils permit condition 3.2.1 (b) (ii) use the results of that programme to carry out an annual retrospective assessment of the dose to the representative person

The retrospective annual dose is back down to the levels seen in 2020 and 2022 at 2.1 $\mu\text{Sv/a}$. The representative group has not changed and remains as the NRS worker group.

Dungeness A submitted their annual Retrospective Dose Assessment for 2024, within the required timescales, in fulfilment of permit condition 3.2.1, as specified under Requirement 3.2.1 (b)(ii) of the CEAR. The reportable results remain below regulatory concern. As per the 2024 Radioactivity in Food and the Environment (RIFE 30) report, the representative person has changed to an adult spending extensive time over sand and shingles in 2024 from an adult living near the site in previous years.

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](#).

On 24 November the Nuclear Regulatory Taskforce published [its final report](#)

The Environment Agency supports the work of the Nuclear Regulatory Taskforce to deliver a stronger and more streamlined regulatory framework.

We welcome the publication of this report and will work closely with the government as it assesses these recommendations and prepares a full response.

We are committed to enabling the UK to become a clean energy superpower and enabling a safe, secure and sustainable nuclear sector that acts in the best interests of society and the environment.

Radioactivity in food and the environment report

Our annual report was published on 30 October 2025 on GOV.UK

[Radioactivity in food and the environment \(RIFE\) report - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](#)

Radioactivity in Food and the Environment (RIFE) improves our understanding of the impact of radioactivity on the environment. Our report provides an in-depth assessment of radioactivity in food and the environment in the UK and the public's exposure to radiation during a specific year.

It shows that the public's exposure to permitted discharges and direct radiation near nuclear and non-nuclear sites is low and within dose limits.

The report brings together the results of the nationwide monitoring programmes of the UK's food standard agencies and environment agencies. This monitoring is independent of, and is also used as a check on, the monitoring carried out by site operators.

This is the third year we've published the whole report as a HTML document with associated ODS files. We no longer issue a PDF or print copy. Previous reports are on the [National Archives website](#)

Read the blog [Radioactivity in food and the environment \(2023-24\) – Creating a better place](#)

Main messages

- Overall, between 2023 and 2024 there were no significant changes to the radioactivity measured in food and the environment.
- Food remains safe and the public's exposure to artificial radiation is within legal limits.
- The dose received by the public near to nuclear licensed sites and industrial and landfill sites in the UK is low and again well within legal limits.
- Levels of radioactivity in food and the environment are low this year and in previous years.
- The data from our monitoring programme in this report demonstrates that radioactivity in food and the environment is safe.
- 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.
- Around 10,000 analyses and dose rate measurements were completed in 2024.

Dungeness information from RIFE

- Total dose was 0.010 mSv (1 % of the dose limit) and increased from 0.005 mSv in 2023.

- The increase in ‘total dose’ was mainly attributed to a higher gamma dose rate observed over sand at Rye Bay, compared to 2023. Consequently, the representative person has changed to an adult spending extensive time over sand and shingles in 2024 from an adult living near the site in previous years

Consultation on charges for radioactive substances regulation at non nuclear sites

We are proposing to increase our charges for permitting and inspection of radioactive substances at non-nuclear sites in England.

This is a statutory duty placed on the Environment Agency under Schedule 23 of the [Environmental Permitting \(England and Wales\) Regulations 2016](#).

Radioactive substances are widely used by hospitals (to diagnose and treat patients), universities (for research and teaching) and industry (in manufacturing and engineering processes).

There are around 1,200 permitted non-nuclear sites which keep and use radioactive materials and dispose of radioactive waste to the environment.

The charges we are consulting on were last reviewed in 2018. Our proposed charges are designed to be fair to our customers and allow us to deliver an efficient and effective service by recovering the true costs of our permitting and regulatory work.

To help you understand what we include when we develop or review a charge, read our guidance on [how the Environment Agency calculates its charges](#) on GOV.UK.

Get involved: The consultation runs for 6 weeks from 6 January 2026 until 17 February 2026.

[Environment Agency charges consultation: radioactive substances regulation \(non-nuclear sites\) - Environment Agency - Citizen Space](#)

Monitoring the effects of permitted discharges from nuclear sites

We’ve published revised guidance on how to design and carry out an environmental radiological monitoring programme.

A radiological monitoring programme is a requirement of a radioactive substances activity permit which is held by operators of nuclear sites in England and Wales.

The guidance will also be used by the Environment Agency and other regulators and organisations who have or participate in independent environmental radiological monitoring programmes.

An operator’s monitoring programme includes what they’ll monitor, where and how often and the monitoring and sampling techniques. What’s new:

- No longer has separate objectives for operators and regulators in relation to understanding doses to people and wildlife
- One of the criteria for defining a site’s impact is the level of dose to the representative person. The change to the threshold of optimisation ([Managing Radioactive Substances and Nuclear Decommissioning: UK policy framework](#)) from 0.02 mSv/y to 0.01 mSv/y has been adopted in the guidance when it comes to defining a site’s impact and for including the need to “assess total representative person dose” as an objective.
- Recognition of innovation and new techniques – we’re happy to consider proposals from operators

- Inclusion of programmes for sites with a potential for variable impact (such as decommissioning sites)
- Example programmes as guidance to what an appropriate programme could comprise for different impact sites for those designing programmes
- How to consider sustainability such as minimising the sampling of living wildlife and habitats
- Accessible format on GOV.UK

Read the guidance [Environmental radiological monitoring: planning and implementing your programme - Guidance - GOV.UK](#)

Read about our monitoring programmes [Monitoring radioactivity - GOV.UK](#)

Read the annual Radioactivity in Food and the Environment (RIFE) report. [Radioactivity in food and the environment \(RIFE\) report - GOV.UK](#) RIFE provides a detailed assessment of radioactivity in food and the environment and the public's exposure to radiation during a specific year. It brings together the nationwide monitoring programmes of the UK's environment and food standard agencies.

Further information

Further information on our role in regulating the use of radioactive substances and related activities on nuclear licensed sites can be found on the Environment Agency section of the GOV.UK website www.gov.uk/topic/environmental-management/nuclear-regulation

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](#)

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.

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NDA Update for
Dungeness A & B SSG
February 2026



Contents

1.0 NDA Stakeholder Update February 2026



NDA Stakeholder Update

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

Government Update

David Peattie, Nuclear Decommissioning Authority Chief Executive Officer, has informed the NDA Chair and Board of his intention to continue to serve the NDA group as its CEO until March 2027. He has shared his plans 18 months ahead of his intended departure to allow preparations to begin to find his replacement and ensure a smooth and comprehensive handover. As the CEO role is a government appointment, a process will now be put in place to find a successor. The announcement can be found using the following link: [Leadership change at the Nuclear Decommissioning Authority - GOV.UK](#)

Nuclear Restoration Services (NRS) Board Member, Dr Fiona Rayment, has been appointed DBE (Dame Commander of the Order of British Empire) by His Majesty the King in the New Year's Honours List, for her services to the nuclear industry.

Outreach activities

Paul Vallance, Corporate Affairs Director for the NDA, addressed the All-Party Parliamentary Group for Nuclear at the Palace of Westminster in early October. The event was attended by more than 20 parliamentarians interested in the nuclear sector. Paul updated on the following:

- The importance of decommissioning within the nuclear lifecycle.
- Resetting perceptions that decommissioning is a declining sector.
- The NDA group's significant contribution to the UK Government's Plan for Change and economic growth.
- Euan Hutton, Sellafield CEO, highlighted Sellafield's role in energy and national security.
- Seth Kybrid, Nuclear Waste Services CEO, emphasised the critical role of the Low Level Waste Repository (LLWR) and Geological Disposal Facility (GDF) in completing the nuclear lifecycle.

Engagement priorities

As you are aware, the consultation on the NDA draft **Strategy 5** was launched on 7 August and closed on 29 September. Our strategy document is published every five years and describes our high-level approach to delivering our mission. The critical enablers essential to the successful delivery of our mission include public and stakeholder engagement. Once we have analysed all the comments the final document will be produced and published in March 2026.



This year's Stakeholder Summit was held virtually on 3 November. More than 250 stakeholders joined the event with input from a range of speakers and panellists. The event was broken into three sessions and included key speakers from across the NDA and its Operating Companies as well as colleagues from the nuclear regulators.

We will soon be launching our annual stakeholder survey. This 'pulse' survey takes about 10 mins to complete and looks broadly at three key measures: openness and transparency, leadership and trust. Please look out for further communication on this.

Supporting green energy development

The NDA group is working with CX Power as the strategic developer to support the delivery of the green energy hub masterplan at Chapelcross, a programme set to transform the region. The privately funded, multi-million-pound, net-zero focused development, will generate several hundred high value jobs and attract skills and investment, driving growth in the local economy.

The NDA is investing £1 million to develop the masterplan for a clean energy development on land adjacent to Sellafield, known as Pioneer Park, which will drive long-term economic growth and jobs. The funding will enable local development company BEC to produce a detailed masterplan considering Sellafield's existing requirements.

Supporting economic growth

The NDA has contributed £351,000 funding to support projects under the North Anglesey Sites and Premises programme; a £10.4 million investment package driving economic growth in Amlwch, close to the former Wylfa nuclear power station.

Publications, public service and policy updates

The NDA Business Plan is out for consultation until 2 February. We will coordinate final publication of the Business Plan with the publication of the NDA Strategy 5 around Easter 2026.

Our latest Mission Progress Report, which sets out the progress being made against the mission as well as how much work there is left to do over the next 120-plus years, has been published. Access the seventh iteration of the Report here: [Mission Progress Report 2024/25](#)

The NDA socio-economic report 2024 to 2025 has been published, detailing how and where £14.13 million of direct socio-economic funding has been invested [NDA socio-economic report](#)



Innovation and delivery milestones

A landmark agreement between the NDA and biotech firm Bicycle Therapeutics will see tens of thousands of doses of cutting-edge cancer therapies produced from reprocessed uranium. This uranium was generated by historic processing of spent nuclear reactor fuel.

Hinkley Point B in Somerset has been declared fuel free, on time and on budget, marking the second advanced gas-cooled reactor (AGR) defueling milestone achieved by the NDA group and EDF. A total of seven stations will transfer from EDF to the NDA group for decommissioning.

The NDA group has delivered a UK-first nuclear milestone, marking a significant step toward permanently disposing of the nation's plutonium legacy. A can of plutonium residue has been safely processed into a stable waste form for the very first time. This demonstrates the UK's leadership in tackling this complex nuclear challenge.

Thank you for taking the time to read our update. If you have any questions, please feed-back through the Secretariat or raise with the NRS official at the SSG meeting.



Nuclear
Decommissioning
Authority