



Hinkley Point Site Stakeholder Group

Venue: The Canalside, Bridgwater
Tuesday, 17th March 2026 commencing at 09:30

AGENDA

All reports & presentations will be circulated with final agenda two weeks before meeting. Members are requested to review reports and submit questions before the meeting, to allow responses to be made on day. Questions received during the meeting may be responded to in writing after the meeting.

The chair has asked that presenters use their speaking time to highlight important points only. This is to allow time for Plenary Panel Session.

All timings indicative and subject to change at Chairs discretion.

1. **09.30 Welcome from the Chair** - Cllr Leigh Redman
2. **09:35 Apologies for absence**
3. **09.40 Open public Q&A session** - Subject to Chairs discretion
4. **09.50 Minutes of the Meeting held 23rd September 2025**
 - Accuracy & matters arising
5. **09.55 Site Director's report – Hinkley Point A site** - Mark Pitts
(including NRS update)
6. **10:10 Station Director's report - Hinkley Point B station** - Des Uminski
7. **10.25 Plenary session:** The Plenary for this meeting is split into two parts:

The session will give each presenter up to 10 mins to outline their message and 10 mins for SSG members' question & answers. Session will last around 45 mins.

Changes at Hinkley Point B since ceasing generation and ahead of the site's transfer to NRS

Note: The scheduled plenary on AGR transition will be scheduled for the next meeting
8. **11.10 ONR reports Hinkley A&B** – Paul Jenneson
9. **11.25 Environment Agency reports Hinkley A&B** - Alister Wintle/Lucy Platts

10. **11.40 Chair's report and to note items circulated between meetings.**

- Results of the member vote on meeting frequency

To note items circulated between meetings:

- Chief Nuclear Inspector's annual report 2024/25 (sent 06/10/25)
- Email regarding Nicola Fauvel moving to Hinkley Point C (sent 21/10/25)
- Email - Environment Agency – Regulatory scrutiny and engagement for geological disposal: Annual report 2024 to 2025 (sent 27/10/2025)
- Email - Decision on the EDF Energy Nuclear Generation Ltd EIADR application for consent for the Hinkley Point B Site (sent 31/10/25)
- Email - Letters out to Hinkley Point B – Hinkley Point B EIADR Application – Letter informing SSG of consent decision – FAO L Redman – 3 November 2025 (sent 03/11/25)
- Email - Link to the Wylfa Announcement (sent 14/11/25)
- Email - Letter from Hinkley Point B for all SSG Members (sent 08/12/25)
- Email - NuLeAF Annual Report and Activity Report (sent 13/01/26)
- Email - ONR communication re Hinkley Point B reaching fuel free, plus Bridgwater Mercury article (sent 14/01/26)
- Email – Sent on behalf of the NDA – Stakeholder Survey (sent 09/02/2026)
- Email – Letter of Introduction, Des Uminksi, Site Director, B Station (sent 13/02/26)
- Email – Sent on behalf of the NDA – SSG key member feedback form (sent to small group only 16/02/26)
- Email – Sent on behalf of the NDA – NDA Strategy published (sent 23/02/26)
- Email – ONR introduces new regulatory approach for former Magnox nuclear sites (sent 27/02/26)
- Email – NuLeaf Newsletter (sent 27/02/26)
- Email – Reminder sent on behalf of the NDA – SSG key member feedback form (sent to small group only 27/02/26)
- Email – Reminder sent on behalf of the NDA – One week to go (sent 02/03/2026)

11. **12.05 Any other business**

Additional paperwork for this and previous meetings can be found on the website: www.nrsssg.com

If you have any queries relating to the SSG meeting or wish to send any pre-submitted questions, please use the following email address: Hinkley.ssg@nrssservices.uk

If you are sending a pre-submitted question, please make it clear in your email which regulator the question is for, so we can ensure it is passed to the relevant team.

The next Hinkley Point SSG's meeting date: Tuesday, 15 September



**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE
HINKLEY A & B STAKEHOLDER GROUP (SSG)
HELD AT THE CANALSIDE, MARSH LANE, BRIDGEWATER, TA6 6LQ
TUESDAY, 23 SEPTEMBER 2025**

Attendance/Apologies list

Present

Cllr L Redman
Graham Pearn

Chair
Vice Chair

Voting Members

Cllr H Davies
Cllr S Goss
Cllr K Hewson
Mr A Jeffery
Cllr C Morgan
Cllr R Perrett
Cllr M Phillips
Cllr J Roberts
Ms M Smith

Somerset Councillor for Watchet, Williton and Stogursey
Stogursey Parish Council
Bawdrip Parish Council
Green Party
Stogursey Parish Council
Otterhampton Parish Council
Wembdon Parish Council
Nether Stowey Parish Council
West Somerset Green Forum

Appointed Members

Ms T Bond
Mr N Kimmins

Somerset Council
Somerset Council

EDF

Mr D Uminski
Ms H Dyer
Mr D Stokes
Mr M Pardo

Technical & Safety Support Manager
Environmental Safety & Chemistry Group Head
Communications Officer
External Communications Manager

NRS

Mr M Pitts
Mr J Craig
Mrs S Fry

In Attendance

Mr B Broadley
Ms N Caplin
Ms L Platts
Mr A Wintle
Mr J McNamara
Ms P Hatt
Dr J Long
Ms R Austin

ONR Hinkley B
Environment Agency
Environment Agency
Environment Agency
NDA
NDA
NDA
Minute Taker

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Members of the Public

Mr A Bedford
Mr J Freeman
Mr J Smolden
Mr R Wallis

Amentum
Independent
Stop Hinkley
Staff of Ms R Gilmour MP

Apologies

Cllr J Addison
Mr A Debenham
Ms N Fauvel
Ms R Gilmour
Mr B Hamilton
Cllr M Hodson
Ms V Thomas

Cannington Parish Council
Stop Hinkley
Station Director, Hinkley Point B, EDF
MP for Tiverton and Minehead
NRS
Spaxton Parish Council
Environment Agency

1. WELCOME

94 The Chair (Cllr Redman) opened the meeting and welcomed new members, reminding all attendees to sign in. The agenda had been circulated prior to the meeting. Graham Pearn introduced himself as the new Vice Chair.

2. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

95 Apologies had been received as listed above.

3. OPEN PUBLIC Q&A SESSION

96 No public questions were received.

4. MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD 3 MARCH 2025

97 Ms Smith stated that the main point of her question about plutonium had not been captured. The relevant Parliamentary Committee had been informed just prior to the last SSG meeting that the plutonium store at Sellafield was at a critical point and would take billions of pounds and 100 years to clear. The Chair asked that Ms Smith email him the specifics of her question following the meeting to be added to the previous minutes and answered.

98 The Chair summarised the action tracker. Point 13 had been closed. Point 18 would be covered during the meeting's reports. On point 32, the Chair asked that Cllr Goss email in to clarify her question. On point 35, the Chair explained that Andy Munro from NRS would be the relevant contact. Mr Munro's details would be shared alongside the minutes of the current meeting. Action point 47 related to Ms Smith's aforementioned question. Point 56 remained open, as the question had yet to be answered.

99 Responding to the Chair, Ms Fry confirmed that the slides of the previous meeting could be found on the SSG website. The Chair noted that communications related to the final action point had been added to the previous meeting's minutes. The action tracker would be attached to meeting minutes going forward.

100 The minutes of the meeting held on 3 March 2025 were approved as a true and accurate record of the meeting.

5. STATION DIRECTOR'S REPORT – HINKLEY POINT A STATION

101 Mr Pitts apologised for his lack of attendance at the previous meeting due to illness. He confirmed that fuel element debris retrieval was running ahead of schedule. Compared to 2024, the speed of recovery had greatly improved. The dry vaults project was in its infancy, but making progress. The planning application for new welfare facilities had been approved and the pre-conditioning facility moved into the active commissioning phase.

102 Mr Pitts observed that Hinkley A was now moving into an operational phase. Due to organisational changes, all accountability for the site was now under the purview of the site director. The targets for Hinkley were summarised and most were rated green, though roof work had been impacted by hot weather.

103 A video on milestone success at the pre-conditioning facility, specifically polymer encapsulation, was played. Mr Pitts commented on vault retrieval and packaging project work, which was currently eight weeks ahead of schedule. A simplified waste map was presented.

104 Mr Pitts reported that there were 14 new apprentices on site for the year and a promotional video related to the apprenticeship induction was played. Mr Pitts highlighted that the site was also now offering work experience placements to local schools. The sites socioeconomic work

was reported on, with the Chair noting that NRS grant funding was focused on maximising benefit as locally as possible. Mr Pitts added that the site volunteering programme had stepped up in recent times. There had also been a shift in approach on sustainability, recognising that it was broader than just recycling. This had led to initiatives including the monthly gardening club. Alan Cummings from the NDA had visited in the last period.

105 Cllr Phillips asked about the plan for the main buildings. Mr Pitts noted that prep machines in the main buildings were of wooden construction and there had been some popping. The equipment was in an exclusion zone and on a watchlist. The buildings themselves were part of a longer term investment plan and were regularly inspected. The cranes had been taken out of service.

106 Mr Jeffery asked when the first encapsulated waste would be added to the intermediate waste store. Mr Pitts stated that December 2025 was the target date. The Chair asked if the project plan could be shared once in place. Mr Pitts confirmed that this would be included in the slide deck going forward.

107 The Vice Chair asked if there was a set funding timetable. Mr Pitts stated that the deadline was currently end of decade. Cllr Morgan asked if there was any provision for people with physical disabilities to visit or work at the site. Mr Pitts confirmed that the site was accessible to those with disabilities.

6. STATION DIRECTOR'S REPORT – HINKLEY POINT B STATION

108 Mr Uminski reported that there had been no significant nuclear or environmental events during the period. There had, however, been some minor industrial safety lost time incidents, with two individuals needing to take time off work. External speakers visiting the site to discuss safety issues had proved effective refreshers for staff.

109 All oil had been removed from the gas circulator system in reactor four and work to remove some bulk chemicals was underway. EDF has applied to the Environment Agency to vary Hinkley Point B's radioactive substances permit, ahead of transfer to NRS in 2026.

110 Mr Uminski reported that defueling efforts at reactor three were making good progress, with 282 of 308 assemblies removed as of the meeting. At that rate of progress, reactor three would be complete by the end of October. Early preparation had led to two irradiated fuel assemblies being successfully bottled and the site was working towards being declared fuel free in early 2026.

111 Both the Environmental Impact Assessment for Decommissioning Regulations (EIADR) and Environmental Statement were with the Environment Agency for assessment. Once defueling work was complete, the active effluent discharge line would also be reassessed and likely modified. A submission would be made to ONR regarding the site's emergency arrangements once it was fuel free.

112 It was anticipated that most waste at Hinkley B during commissioning would be conventional waste and there were no plans to remove waste from the dry vaults during the decommissioning process. A small amount of waste from the active effluent treatment plant would need to be decommissioned in future. The site was working with the NRS to determine the best strategy for disposal of this waste.

113 Mr Uminski noted recent awards, local charity work and site visits. Staff and contractors were constantly reminded about road safety standards and being a 'good neighbour'. At an upcoming safety day in October, road safety would play a significant role.

114 Cllr Davies asked the length of the 'care and maintenance' period. Mr Uminski stated that this phase would be in excess of 80 years. Cllr Goss suggested that waste stored at Hinkley B would remain until a geological disposal facility (GDF) was commissioned. Mr Uminski confirmed that this was accurate. Waste would remain on the Hinkley estate. The Chair added that changes in Government strategy on this point had been communicated between meetings.

- 115 Ms Smith asked the impact of changes to the risk assessment format to include a 'fresh pair of eyes'. Mr Uminski commented on the site's multi-layered approach to risk assessment. The lead team had sought to spend more time in the field to this end and had discussed approaches to managing risk, including coaching staff.
- 116 Cllr Kimmins asked how changes in the emergency procedure might affect the Civil Nuclear Constabulary (CNC). Mr Uminski explained that, once the site was fuel free, CNC presence would no longer be required. A release plan for CNC officers would come into effect throughout 2026. The Chair noted that this might be a beneficial plenary session topic at the March 2026 meeting.
- 117 The Chair asked if there was an element of consultation to the emergency plan changes. Mr Uminski confirmed that internal documentation would be shared with Somerset Council during the process. The Chair asked if there were any planning issues in relation to modifying the active effluent discharge line. Mr Uminski confirmed that this project was in its very early stages. Further information would be shared as it progressed. Ms Dyer stated that planning changes would be likely.

7. NRS CORPORATE REPORT

- 118 Mr Craig introduced himself. Mr Hamilton had been unable to attend, as he was at a community roadshow event in Hunterston. The spending review had made clear the budget for the remainder of the current Parliament. The focus on frontline decommissioning work would remain. Senior staff would be subject to a mutually agreed voluntary exit process, but it was yet to be confirmed whether this would be rolled out to other grades.
- 119 A national community engagement programme had been launched, hence Mr Hamilton's presence in Hunterston. Mobile exhibitions would be present both on site and in the community. The local community would be polled and three in-person focus groups of young people, adults and SSG representatives conducted. Once the final report was complete, the findings would be shared with all SSGs. Research showed that there was a real knowledge gap in the wider community about work on the site. The engagement programme would go some way to remediate this and better understand local views. The Chair asked if the terms of reference for the local polling mentioned could be shared.
- 120 **ACTION: Mr Craig to share the terms of reference for NRS local polling and the polling results already received from other sites.**
- 121 Cllr Goss asked what proposals were being discussed. Mr Craig clarified that this polling was general engagement work, seeking to understand the community's knowledge of the site and their priorities for the future. Ms Hatt added that the previously undertaken stakeholder survey had been national. Current polling efforts were about drilling down into local specifics.
- 122 Ms Smith asked if there was a target figure being pursued in terms of overall savings. Mr Craig stated there was currently no monetary target. Ms Smith asked if monetary cost would be assessed. Mr Craig confirmed that this would likely be assessed in the future, as the corporate restructuring of NRS continued, and shared with the SSG.
- 123 **ACTION: Mr Craig to share NRS corporate restructuring plans with the SSG as they progressed.**

8. NDA REPORTS

- 124 Mr McNamara joined the meeting via Microsoft Teams. The Chair clarified that Mr McNamara had been unable to travel due to illness. SSG meetings would continue to be held in person.
- 125 Mr McNamara commented on developments as a result of the spending review. The Government had allocated the highest ever settlement to the NDA, but over a five-year time horizon, meaning that some projects might be paused or slowed. The SSG would be kept updated on any changes put in place as a result of this.

- 126 Hunterston and Hinkley would be the first two sites to transition from EDF and the SSG would be provided with regular updates. The 12-week public consultation on the five-year strategy was underway and would be discussed further during the plenary session later in the meeting. The final strategy would be published in March 2026. Cross-party groups for nuclear had been set up in both Scottish and Welsh devolved governments and discussions as to whether the Vulcan Naval Reactor Test Establishment would also transition to the NDA for decommissioning were underway.
- 127 On the question of plutonium at Sellafield, Mr McNamara highlighted that £5 million had been invested in creating a ceramics hub, £2.5 million of which had already been allocated to research into making the plutonium safe before eventual its disposal in the GDF. More recently, the Government had announced the NDA's commitment of another £154 million towards a new laboratory at Sellafield, creating over 100 jobs.
- 128 The Chair noted possible NDA involvement in the decommissioning of Ministry of Defence (MoD) sites, the nearest to Hinkley being in Plymouth, and possible input the Hinkley SSG could give. Mr McNamara stated that engagement with the UK and Scottish governments on this was underway. Currently, MoD representatives attended the Dounreay SSG. A similar community meeting for nuclear MoD sites also existed, attended by the same regulators.
- 129 Cllr Jeffery asked how the NDA might be required to pause or slow down its progress due to the spending review. Mr McNamara clarified that the NDA was still in the reassessment phase. It was a question of appropriately allocating spending over five years, rather than not having sufficient available funds. The NDA had become accustomed to a one or two-year funding cycle. The Chair added that more details would be shared once they became available.
- 130 Cllr Goss highlighted that some GDF employees had already been offered redundancy. Mr McNamara explained that there would be a programme of voluntary redundancy across the group, ensuring that as much money as possible was allocated to frontline services. Lincolnshire had dropped out of the consultation process on the GDF, requiring a significant reassessment of staffing, but taking forward the GDF remained Government policy.
- 131 The meeting was adjourned between 10.57 and 11.09.

9. PLENARY SESSION

- 132 ***NDA Strategy 5***
- 133 The Chair noted that he had put together a draft response the SSG might like to submit to the Strategy 5 consultation. If not agreed, the Chair would submit it as an individual.
- 134 A video introducing NDA Strategy 5 was played. Dr Long introduced herself. The national mission of the NDA and its four key strategic themes were outlined. This fifth iteration of the strategy would ensure that the organisation was on course to deliver, reflecting changes in regulation and legislation and experiences in the sector globally. A related integrated impact assessment was available on the website.
- 135 The NDA was working with Government to ensure that lessons learned over time were incorporated into the strategy moving forward. The NDA was also supporting Government with its decisions on plutonium and advanced gas-cooled reactors (AGRs). It had not yet been decided whether the Vulcan site would transition into the NDA group. Overall, there were efforts being made to look past the labels across the group and work as one organisation to maximise value nationally.
- 136 A key element of the strategy was its articulation of medium-term aspirations, including the retrieval of most waste from high hazard silos, dealing with plutonium and working with regulators and Government to implement legislation enabling work without a nuclear license were safe and relevant. The NDA was working with communities and local councils to understand, for example, how land across the estate might be better used.

- 137 The NDA's role in the wider nuclear enterprise was also an important element of the strategy. Dr Long clarified that the NDA would not become the only UK nuclear organisation. Its mission remained waste-informed, proportional decommissioning of legacy sites and the associated efficient use of group resources, bearing in mind holistic sustainability.
- 138 Some critical enablers had been changed. For example, sustainability had been removed as a critical enabler and included as a principle instead. Asset management and continuous improvement had been grouped together. The concept of safe stewardship had been made more explicit and aspirations for success added. The consultation would close on 29 September and included a number of specific questions, but respondents were also able to provide their own comments if they wished.
- 139 Ms Smith asked about references in the strategy to climate change and if there was flexibility to incorporate rapidly increasing sea levels. Dr Long explained that environment had been split out as a standalone critical enabler to facilitate a greater focus on the topic. It must be embedded throughout the mission and plans. Developments were constantly monitored and reviewed to incorporate changes as they occurred. Cllr Goss suggested that the issue of flood protection was more relevant for new nuclear sites, rather than those being decommissioned.
- 140 Cllr Goss observed that it was unlikely a GDF would be complete within 25 years, given that a site had yet to be identified. Dr Long agreed that this was an ambitious target. It was nevertheless helpful to articulate such aspirations to encourage progress.
- 141 Cllr Roberts noted that he had often asked about plans for the land at Hinkley A and B sites, but had yet to receive an answer. There must be a direction of travel.
- 142 **ACTION: The Chair confirmed to take the question of land usage at Hinkley A and B away to seek a substantive response.**
- 143 Dr Long added that Strategy 5 included more emphasis on careful consideration of future use of the estate, including regional and local engagement. Final decommissioning was too far in the future to finalise a use for all sites in the near term. Cllr Roberts suggested that the obvious answer was for nuclear sites to remain so.
- 144 The Chair reiterated that the consultation would close in just under a week's time. He would circulate his drafted response, but was conscious given the little time remaining that it would not represent the views of all SSG members. He would not submit it as an SSG response unless there was clear consensus. Members were encouraged to feed into the consultation individually if they had not already done so.
- 145 ***NDA/NRS Stakeholders' Survey***
- 146 Ms Hatt introduced herself, highlighting the online stakeholder summit taking place on Monday 3 November, invitations for which would soon be circulated. Members were encouraged to sign up to the online stakeholder database if they did not already receive updates through the SSG. The Chair noted that he often forwarded on updates to SSG members as he received them.
- 147 Ms Hatt highlighted that, previously, surveys had been carried out every few years through in-depth interviews. More recently, shorter pulse surveys had been conducted in order to capture the comments of a broader range of stakeholders. There had been 204 respondents from three key groups: community stakeholders, the nuclear industry and public bodies.
- 148 Key findings from the survey were reported across three main areas: trust, leadership and transparency. There had been positive results in terms of confidence in the NDA's leadership, the criticality of the NDA to the clean up of the UK's nuclear legacy and the organisation's engagement with the public. The relationships between operating companies had also been considered alongside perception of the NDA corporate centre.
- 149 A number of areas for improvement had been identified through the survey, including perceptions that the NDA did not deliver value for money, understanding of the organisation's

role internationally and industry and supply chain concerns about receptiveness to feedback. There was also a need to improve stakeholder views on adherence to best practice across the group and holding operating companies to account.

150 The NDA continued to reflect on the survey's findings, only a snapshot of which had been presented. The wider findings would be shared on website in due course. There would be a session at the 3 November summit on the NDA's international work, reflecting the lack of understanding identified during survey.

151 Mr Wallis asked about the difference in results in terms of the NDA's leadership and engagement. Ms Hatt suggested that it was easy for the organisation to fall into the trap of using technical terminology and acronyms, assuming a deep knowledge of the nuclear industry. There might therefore be a gap between how well the NDA felt it was articulating its progress and the reception of this at the ground level.

10. OFFICE FOR NUCLEAR REGULATION (ONR) REPORT HINKLEY A & B

152 Mr Broadley noted that ONR reports had been circulated prior to the meeting and were available on the ONR website. Since the previous meeting, there had been various engagement with Hinkley B around preparations for the end of defueling, fuel free verification and the related future change in emergency arrangements. The EIADR was nearing completion. The ONR was working through comments from the consultation period and was due to determine whether consent would be granted. The outcome would be published on the ONR website and shared with the SSG in the coming weeks.

153 More generally, performance across both sites had been as expected. There had been some engagement in relation to low level issues. Climate change had been a key issue reviewed and discussed across the past year.

154 Cllr Goss highlighted that the removal of CNC officers would leave Stogursey parish dependent on Avon and Somerset police service, which was already overstretched. She suggested that some CNC officers might be retained. Mr Uminski stated that the retention of some CNC officers in the area was already under consideration.

155 **ACTION: Chair to seek a formal response from the CNC on future plans to share with SSG members between meetings.**

156 Cllr Roberts asked if Hinkley B would be unlicensed once fuel free. Mr Broadley clarified that the site would remain licensed once fuel free. The regulatory requirement for CNC officers was driven by the presence of nuclear fuel, rather than nuclear waste. The ONR could feed this back local concerns in terms of recommending changes to the legislation going forward. An attendee observed that CNC presence would likely need to increase again in future, given developments at Hinkley C. The Chair noted that Hinkley C had chosen to move forward with a slightly different community engagement structure.

11. ENVIRONMENT AGENCY REPORT HINKLEY A & B

157 Mr Wintle noted that he would cover both sites in Ms Thomas' absence. After a recent inspection at Hinkley A, the Environment Agency was satisfied that a suitable asset management system was in place. There had also been a permit review, which had highlighted some areas of potential change. Mr Wintle emphasised that this did not represent non-compliance, but rather areas of possible variation due to future changes in the site's activity. The environmental monitoring programme inspection was in progress, with the results likely to be ready for the next SSG meeting.

158 At a joint inspection with the ONR in January on the Hinkley B's work towards decommissioning, no non-compliance had been identified. Information on the site's combustion activities had been received and reviewed, with no issues identified. The

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Environment Agency was also satisfied that the site was compliant with the relevant permit following a best available techniques review.

159 Mr Wintle noted Hinkley A had provided the information requested on its combustion operations. The Environment Agency had been pleased with the quality of the application submitted. A radioactive substances permit variation had been received from Hinkley B in April 2025 and the Environment Agency was satisfied that the site was reducing its emissions. The request changes had been made to the permit as a result. The effective date would align with the site being fully defueled.

160 The permit transfer application from EDF to NRS had been received. There would be consultation on the application, because the only effective change would be to the name of the operation. The Environment Agency would ensure that NRS was competent to take on the site. The radioactivity in food and the environment report had been updated and the 2024 report would be published in the coming months. The 2024 habits survey had been published in March 2025 and was available through the link in the report.

12. CHAIR'S REPORT AND TO NOTE ITEMS CIRCULATED BETWEEN MEETINGS

161 The Chair noted that the following items had been circulated between meetings:
162 'Have your say' on the NDA
163 Leadership changes at NWS and NTS
164 ONR consultation – EIADR application for consent for HPB
165 Consultation on the EDF Energy Nuclear Generation Ltd EIADR Application for Consent for the Hinkley Point B Site
166 Environment Agency – Environmental Permit Consultation
167 Sebastian Koa – Recruitment for interviews for PhD research
168 Hinkley Point B variation EPR/CB3735DT/V008
169 Launch of public consultation on NDA Strategy 5
170 ONR site inspector's quarterly SSG report for Hinkley Point B Q2 – 1 January to 30 June 2025
171 Placeholder – NDA Strategy 5 Webinar – 5 September
172 Register now for the NDA Strategy 5 Webinar
173 Reminder – Invitation and registration link for NDA Strategy 5 Webinar
174 Election of new Vice Chair
175 Sent on behalf of the NDA – Reminder – Invitation and registration link for NDA Strategy 5 webinar

13. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

176 ***New Hinkley SSG Constitution***

177 The Chair noted that the revised constitution had been circulated ahead of the meeting. SSG member unanimously approved the new SSG constitution.

178 ***Hinkley Point Display at Blake Museum***

179 The Chair highlighted efforts to mark the legacy of Hinkley Point through a possible display at Blake Museum. He asked if members felt such a display would be of interest to the community and if the SSG should therefore work with the museum and both sites to create it.

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180 Ms Smith asked if all points of view would be included in such a display. The Chair confirmed that they would. Any display should be as transparent as possible to preserve the real history of the sites.

181 ***Plenary for next meeting***

182 The Chair referred back to his earlier suggestion that the next plenary session focus on the transition from EDF to NRS. There were no further suggestions from members.

183 ***2026 meeting dates***

184 The Chair noted the upcoming meeting dates of Tuesday 17 March and Tuesday 15 September 2026. He invited members to direct questions to him or the new Vice Chair in the interim.

185 Cllr Davies suggested that a revised membership list be circulated. The Chair confirmed that he would do so. It would also be his aim to grow the SSG's membership over the coming six months.

186 **ACTION: Chair to circulate a revised SSG membership list.**

187 Cllr Goss advised that attendance might increase again to previous levels if meetings took place three times a year, rather than twice. The Chair stated that he would be driven by the membership in this regard. The recent consensus had been that two meetings was sufficient, due to the state of the sites, and the current meeting was due to finish well ahead of the scheduled end time. Cllr Roberts seconded Cllr Goss's suggestion that meetings again take place three times per year.

188 **ACTION: Chair to circulate a poll to members about the frequency of SSG meetings.**

189 Ms Smith thanked the Chair for his communications between meetings, which were helpful. Ms Fry noted the upcoming March 2026 Hinkley community roadshow, asking members to share any suggestions as to where in Bridgwater it would be best placed.

190 There being no further business, the meeting was closed at 12.23.

Next meeting date: Tuesday 17 March 2026.



Hinkley Point A

Site Stakeholder Group

Site Report



March 2026

Mark Pitts, Hinkley Point A - Site Director





Introduction

Since the last SSG, I'm happy to report the progress made regarding Safety Rep recruitment. The Safety Rep team is now well embedded and performing well. Target and milestone performance is also good with just one asset care target currently at risk of falling behind. Whilst we have had a number of minor events, our Safety, Security and Environmental performance remain good.

I'm particularly proud of the efforts made by a couple of site teams, firstly the Low Level Waste team who have managed to complete 10 shipments this year, 2 more than planned.

Secondly, the Higher Activity Waste Operations team have successfully achieved their target for Wet Vaults retrievals of 9,2te, ahead of schedule.



Safety Security and Environment

"Everyone gets to go home in at least the condition they arrived in"

Mark Pitts, HPA Site Director

Reporting levels remain high and action close-out has improved. These will remain a focus area of mine, along with leadership visibility in the field.

High Performance Culture training has been successfully rolled out across the site, helping all staff be the best they can in whatever role they have. We've also completed our Conduct for Work programme. Conduct for Work sets standards and expectations for those out in the field operating and maintaining plant.

I want to focus on improving how we keep our documentation in date – back in September we became aware that our Environmental Monitoring Programme document had lapsed – this has not led to any issues or events. We've received a warning letter from the Environmental Agency. Recovery actions have been agreed and are in progress.



Delay on first package

First package in the store hasn't gone to plan with plant issues slowing progress. The plant issues have mainly been with the cranes in both MILWEP (Modular Intermediate Level Waste Encapsulation Plant and the ISF (Interim Storage Facility). We are at the end of these issues now. First packages in the store are expected before the end of March.





Key Projects

Critical path activities continue to make good progress. Our FED (Fuel Element Debris) retrieval target for the financial year of 9.2te, has been achieved

Commissioning and handover of key ILW (Intermediate Level Waste) processing facilities continues, with our PCF (Pre Conditioning Facility) and MILWEP (Modular Intermediate Level Waste Encapsulation Plant) now in active commissioning phase. This is a significant milestone for Hinkley Point A, enabling us to progress towards our first final package in the store.

Enabling work to allow access into the Dry Vaults is continuing well, most notable the pond pipe bridge removal. Cavendish Nuclear, who will be doing the bulk of the installation work, has commenced mobilisation on site.

Asset care projects continue. The wet weather has slowed progress on roof repairs but nothing of concern and we achieved our wireless fire alarm install target in December 2025. Work has also now started on the new change facility, allowing better welfare facilities for the teams working in the Pond and retrieval complex.

Business Planning

The sites four-year business plan has been agreed; 14 additional posts are part of this plan and recruitment has begun. This will mean an increase in staff positions on site from 208 to 222.



Staff



Apprentices

Our apprentice programme continues; the next cohort of seven has been approved.

Katie Pitts, Assistant Engineer for High Active Waste Systems at HPA, received a Highly Commended award in the National Higher Apprentice of the Year category after first winning the South West regional title.

Her commitment to technical training, professional networks, and STEM outreach, including representing NRS at Parliament, helped earn her national recognition. Katie was also congratulated by local MP Rachel Gilmour during a visit to Parliament.

We look forward to supporting and developing the next new cohort of apprentices.



Recruitment

Recruitment has improved in most areas, there seems to be some skill shortages in Radiation Protection Advisors, we are working on this matter with our corporate recruitment team.



Community News

Sponsorship and donations

We have supported the following local causes, via the NRS small projects funding:

- Knights Templar Community Pool
- ESS Education & Support Services
- CHOMP
- Wilstockhub

We have also supported five local causes through the Good Neighbour Fund.

Charity



This year's chosen charity was: Children's Hospice South West. I'm very pleased to say we have made our target of £15,500, which will purchase a "Cuddle Cot". The site has worked hard to make this happen and its great that we have raised enough money to purchase an item for the charity. We will now start to select our next charity.

Volunteering

One volunteering activity has been completed since October at Westonzoyland Pumping Station Museum, the team worked hard to give the reception area and café a new lick of paint. Another date is also in the calendar at Secret World where they rescue sick, injured or orphaned animals across the South-West.

Visits

We had a very successful visit from David Peattie, NDA CEO and Rachel Gilmour MP.



Actions from last SSG meeting

No actions given to HPA.



Office for
Nuclear Regulation

ONR site report

NRS – Hinkley Point A

ONR site report

NRS - Hinkley Point A

Report for period: 1 July – 31 December 2025

Authored by: Nominated Site Inspector

Approved by: Head of Regulation

Issue: 1

Published: January 2026

Record reference: 2026/138

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 Hinkley Point Site Stakeholders 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 Hinkley Point Site Stakeholders Group meetings where these reports are presented and will respond to any questions raised there. Any person wishing to inquire about matters covered by this report should contact 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 July – 31 December 2025:

- 11 September 2025
- 8 & 22 October 2025
- 10 November 2025

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 Hinkley Point A covered the following:

- emergency preparedness
- security

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 attended the Nuclear Restoration Services' Oldbury, Berkeley and Hinkley Point A Quarterly Regulator Interface Meeting on the 14 July 2025 and the 14 October 2025 to discuss issues, events and project milestone updates at the sites. The overall site performance across the NRS southwest region remains adequate and no new significant issues were identified.

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

The site inspector held a periodic meeting with safety representatives, to support their function of representing employees and receiving information on matters affecting their health, safety and welfare at work.

3. Non-routine matters

Licensees are required to have arrangements to respond to non-routine matters and events. 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

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References

There are no sources in the current document.

ONR site report

EDF Nuclear Generation Ltd – Hinkley Point B

ONR site report

EDF Nuclear Generation Ltd - Hinkley Point B

Report for period: 1 July – 31 December 2025

Authored by: Nominated Site Inspector Hinkley Point B

Approved by: Joint Head of Regulation - Operating Reactors

Issue: #

Published: February 2026

Record reference: 2026/3123

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 Site Stakeholder Group and are also available on our website: www.onr.org.uk/publications/regulatory-reports/site-specific-reports/llcssg-reports.

Our site inspectors usually attend 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 inspectors made inspections on the following dates during the report period
1 July– 31 December 2025:

- 9 July – Transport Inspection
- 18 September – Security Inspection
- 14 October – Incident Reporting
- 11-12 November – Organisational Capability
- 3 December – Fuel Free Verification of Reactor 3

2. Routine matters

2.1. Inspections

Inspections are undertaken as part of the process for monitoring compliance with:

- The conditions attached by ONR to the nuclear site licence granted under the Nuclear Installations Act 1965 (NIA65) (as amended);
- The Energy Act 2013;
- The Health and Safety at Work etc Act 1974 (HSWA74);
- Regulations made under HSWA74, for example, the Ionising Radiations Regulations 2017 (IRR17) and the Management of Health and Safety at Work Regulations 1999 (MHSWR99); and
- The Nuclear Industries Security Regulations 2003 (as amended).

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 Hinkley Point B covered the following:

- Transport
- Nuclear Safety
- Security

CNS Transport Compliance – Inspection rating: Green

On 9 July 2025, our inspector carried out an inspection to verify compliance with the approved Transport Security Statement (TSS), by Hinkley Point B as a Class B approved carrier. This inspection sampled compliance with a number of aspects of the approved TSS and focused on site's ensuing compliance.

It was judged that Hinkley Point B as an approved Class B carrier, are in compliance with their approved TSS.

Incident Reporting – Inspection Rating: Green

On 14 October 2025, our site inspector visited site to inspect the adequacy of Licence Condition 7 'Incidents on the site' arrangements and their implementation at

Hinkley Point B. The inspection sampled arrangements, incidents reported, internal investigation of relevant incidents and resultant action management.

It was judged that EDF Hinkley Points B's arrangements and their implementation for Licence Condition 7 – 'Incidents on the site' are adequate and therefore the inspection was rated Green.

Organisational Capability in Preparation for Deconstruction Organisation – Inspection Rating Green

On 11 & 12 November 2025, our inspectors attended site to examine whether organisational capability risks are adequately managed and whether management of change for deconstruction organisation is adequately considered in line with Licence Condition 36 'Organisational Capability'. The inspection focused on the implementation of fleetwide improvements; update of Hinkley Point B's nuclear baseline; its justification; management of organisational vulnerabilities and risks; nuclear baseline roles; ongoing management of organisational change; and resource planning.

It was judged that EDF Hinkley Points B's arrangements and their implementation for Licence Condition 36 'Organisational Capability' are adequate and therefore the inspection was rated Green.

Fuel Free Verification of Reactor 3 – Inspection Rating Green

On 3 December 2025, our site inspector visited site to gain assurance of the approach taken by Hinkley Point B to declare reactor 3 fuel free. This inspection sampled arrangements for the verification of fuel free and reviewed records that evidenced the removal of fuel.

It was judged that the approach taken by Hinkley Point B to declare reactor 3 fuel free meets the requirement for compliance with LC25 – 'Operational Records' and the inspection was rated Green.

Security inspection – Inspection rating Green

During this period our security inspector attended site for an inspection on 18 September 2025. The inspection was rated Green with no security concerns identified.

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

ONR inspectors for safety, security and safeguards attended the site annual review of safety, security, safeguards and the environment on 16 September 2025.

Our site inspector attended the site stakeholder group meeting on 23 September.

Our site inspector attended site on 23 & 24 September to witness a proof of concept exercise in support of permissioning of revised 'post defuel' onsite emergency arrangements.

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.

Matters and events of particular note during the period were:

There were four safety and one transport related events during the period that met regulatory reporting criteria. One event resulted in the site declaring an operational alert in order to secure appropriate wider EDF support to resolve an unexpected issue during defuelling activities. We judged that the dutyholder response demonstrated appropriate, conservative and methodical decision making. The steps taken allowed safe resolution of the issue observed. No further regulatory action was required.

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
29/10/2025	Consent	HPB71814N	Consent for Dismantling or Decommissioning under the Nuclear Reactors (Environmental Impact Assessment for Decommissioning) Regulations (EIADR) for EDF Energy Nuclear Generation Ltd (EDF Energy) for the decommissioning project at Hinkley Point B power station.
27/11/2025	Approval	ONRW-2019369590-25331	Approval of modification N0248 to the Mk A2 Advanced Gas-cooled Reactor (AGR) transport flask. The modification was to allow EDF Energy to transport eight bottled fuel elements from Hinkley Point B failed fuel stringer ex4K05 to Sellafield in a GB/2834B transport flask.

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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Environment Agency report to the Hinkley Point Site Stakeholder Group.

March 2026

Introduction

This report covers the Environment Agency's regulation of the Hinkley Point A & B nuclear sites and related issues for the period September 2025 to March 2026.

Radioactive substances regulation

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

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

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

Hinkley Point A

We continue to hold regular meetings with the Hinkley Point A (HPA) environment team and relevant managers, to ensure permit compliance and reporting requirements remain fit for purpose during ongoing decommissioning work and assess emerging issues and progress with actions.

Inspections:

Environmental Monitoring Programme Inspection:

We carried out a 3 day inspection focused on HPA's Environmental Monitoring Programme (EMP). On the first day we witnessed the practical aspects of Environmental Monitoring, which included Gamma radiation dose rate monitoring and

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strandline monitoring around the Hinkley Outfall, Combswich and Kilve. We also reviewed documentation, procedures and associated aspects of the management system at the HPA site, with NRS staff and their EMP contractor and reviewed additional documents, which were provided after the inspection.

The purpose of the inspection was to seek assurance that HPA is compliant with the requirements of its environmental permit, in addition to the Compilation of Environment Agency Requirements and Specifications (CEAR) for their sampling of the surrounding environment. HPA have an EMP with allocated sites and monitoring and sampling requirements. A contract is in place to undertake the required monitoring, sampling and analysis. NRS are required to submit monitoring returns to the Environment Agency on a routine quarterly basis. Data reporting also includes a requirement to report any statistically significant adverse results. Monitoring data is reported on time and in a suitable format and we found evidence that monitoring equipment was calibrated and maintained.

EA guidance requires EMPs to be reviewed every 3-5 years, whilst Nuclear Restoration Services (NRS) own procedures require a yearly evaluation and full review every 5 years. The EMP was last reviewed by NRS in 2017 following changes in environmental monitoring contractor. The Best Available Techniques (BAT) document supporting the EMP was last reviewed in 2015.

We concluded that failure to maintain adequate surveillance of changes in guidance, and complete adequate reviews of the EMP and associated BAT, constitutes a breach of these EPR/ZP3693SL permit requirements. These breaches of permit have been scored as two CCS 3 non-compliances. We have issued regulatory advice and guidance, including actions and recommendations set out in our RASCAR to improve NRS's performance and return them to compliance.

We issued a Warning Letter to Nuclear Restoration Services Limited on the 24th February 2026 for the two non-compliances identified during this inspection. The actions required by the RASCAR are due to be completed imminently and we will provide an update at the next SSG meeting.

Solid Waste Management Inspection:

We completed a Solid Waste Management Inspection on the 24th and 25th November 2025. We inspected Nuclear Restoration Services Limited (NRS) Hinkley Point A's (HPA) Solid Waste Management activities, plans and procedures, to seek assurance that NRS is compliant with the permit requirements for waste management and treatment. We inspected the waste treatment and storage areas. In addition, we requested and have received further documentation following the inspection.

HPA demonstrated through the combination of practical examples and provision of management system documents how they follow the waste hierarchy and Best

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Available Techniques to minimise waste arisings. Waste is characterised, categorised and segregated. Volume reduction is also used to minimise disposals.

We concluded that NRS has a good awareness of site procedures, management standards and Environmental Permitting Regulations Radioactive Substances permit requirements were demonstrated, by waste management staff. Additional knowledge of Duty of Care and Transport requirements was also shown through the questioning process, with examples provided of challenging the behaviours of contractors and ensuring relevant documentation is correct. This was supported by evidence of training and displayed by actions of staff that indicated a strong culture of knowledge and pride within the waste management department. Strengths were understood, and also there was a recognition and a desire for continuous improvement.

Waste was stored securely in well segregated and labelled areas. The operator was able to demonstrate alignment with management system procedures and requirements, with practical demonstrations and records. No non compliances were identified.

Planned Inspections:

We have planned a Records Management inspection for March 2025. This inspection will review the quality and accessibility of records, including how they are stored and kept. This will include checking the record retention period complies with site standards and permit and CEAR requirements.

Hinkley Point B

An overview of our regulatory compliance activities at Hinkley Point B (HPB) is provided below. As part of our routine regulation, we hold routine meetings with the Environmental Safety Group (ESG), station management and Independent Nuclear Assurance (INA), in addition to relevant external bodies such as the Office for Nuclear Regulation (ONR). These routine interactions allow us to remain informed of any relevant activities and events at the site of regulatory interest.

Combustion Inspection

A combustion plant inspection was completed on the 3rd December 2025. The purpose of the inspection was to review the management arrangements for standby combustion plant and other associated plant at Hinkley Point B (HPB), which are regulated under environmental permit number EP3334LZ. This includes four Gas Turbines, three vapouriser auxiliary boilers, and several diesel-powered pumps and generators.

The inspection involved a review of relevant documents, meetings with Environmental Safety Group (ESG) staff and relevant System Engineers. Additionally, we undertook

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a site walkdown to inspect the combustion plant and fuel storage tanks identified in the permit and visually inspected the permanent isolation of retired plant.

No non-compliances were identified with the permit EPR/EP3334LZ and an example of good practice was identified. EDF was able to demonstrate that they have an effective management system in place and provided evidence of how the isolation and retirement of plant is managed. Reports that review energy efficiency, resource usage and waste disposal were in date and met the requirements of the permit.

F-gas Inspection

On the 3rd December 2025, in addition to the combustion inspection, we reviewed the stations management arrangements and procedures for the use of fluorinated greenhouse gases (F gases) on its site and with the F-Gas Regulations. The inspection included a review of relevant documents, meetings with HPB staff and a site walkdown to inspect some of the F-gas units on site.

HPB staff provided an overview of the station's maintenance arrangements for F-gas units, and provided evidence for the management of repairs on leaks. With regards to preventative measures, the station is now implementing a review of F-gas units that are 8 years or older and are proactively replacing units that are needed for the next 10 years.

As part of the inspection, HPB provided evidence that training records and certificates for HPB staff and contractors involved in F-gas maintenance were in date. We also saw evidence of calibration certifications issued in 2025 for equipment used for the testing and maintenance of F-gas units.

No non-compliances were identified during the inspection.

Planned Inspections

A Higher Activity Waste (HAW) inspection is planned for April 2026. We are currently in the process of drafting our remaining inspection plan for the period of April 2026 to March 2027.

Active Effluent Discharge – Shutdown of Main Circulating Water Pumps

Within the existing management systems for discharging active effluent through the sea discharge line, there is a requirement to confirm at least one Main Circulating Water (MCW) pump is running before discharge, allowing the effluent to be mixed with large volumes of reactor cooling water as it is discharged to sea.

Now that electricity generation at HPB has ended, the reactors no longer need a constant, high flow of coolant water. It is expensive to operate and maintain the circulating water pumps, and they will eventually need to be decommissioned and removed as the station is decommissioned. EDF are considering alternative discharge

arrangements that demonstrate Best Available Techniques (BAT) for the discharge of aqueous effluents into the Bristol Channel without the MCW flow.

The Environment Agency are reviewing the options and supporting evidence that has been provided by HPB.

CB3735DT T001 Permit transfer from EDF to NRS

The Environment Agency received a joint application on the 30th July 2025 for the transfer of environmental permit EPR/CB3735DT Hinkley Point B Power Station from its current operator EDF Energy Nuclear Generation Ltd to a new operator, Nuclear Restoration Services Ltd.

The Transferor will be EDF Nuclear Generation Ltd.

The Transferee will be Nuclear Restoration Services Ltd.

We do not consult on permit transfers. There is no set determination timescale for the transfer of a nuclear site environmental permit. We will seek to determine the application as quickly as possible, but the time taken will be dependent on the completeness of the technical aspects of the application and the complexity of the proposal.

Our determination process will consider whether the transferee meets the legal requirements of an operator and can suitably demonstrate their competence. We transfer permits subject to the same conditions as in the transferor's permit. No conditions are changed or removed.

Events and enforcement

Hinkley point A

We identified 2 non-compliances with the environmental permit during the Environmental Monitoring Programme inspection completed in September 2025. A breach of a permit condition is an offence under the Environmental Permitting (England and Wales) Regulations 2016.

We concluded that Nuclear Restoration Services Limited committed the following offence; the contravention of Regulation 38 (2) of the Environmental Permitting (England and Wales) Regulations 2016, failure to comply with permit conditions, namely by not completing required reviews of the Hinkley Point A Site Environmental Monitoring Programme and associated Best Available Techniques in line with management system and regulatory guidance requirements.

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We have issued the warning letter as a response to the above offence. Although the facts cause us concern, after consideration, we do not propose taking any further regulatory action with respect to the above offence. However, our decision could change if further relevant information becomes known or further issues arise.

Hinkley Point B

There have been no non-compliances identified at Hinkley Point B since our last report.

Discharge reports

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

Hinkley Point A

The effluent and gaseous discharges from Hinkley Point A were below notification levels and permitted limits. The Environmental Monitoring Programme data was submitted within the required timescales and the review identified no results or trends of concern.

In February an error was identified with the MCERTS flowmeter linked to the proportional sampler. The proportional sampler takes a sample of the aqueous discharge of active effluent. This sample is tested and used to provide data to the Environment Agency as required by the environmental permit. HPA are still able to take proportionate samples and have a method for measuring the flow but this is not MCERTS accredited.

MCERTS is the Environment Agency's Monitoring Certification Scheme for environmental permit holders. MCERTS certified equipment must achieve certain standards to be used for regulatory purposes. It must also be inspected and certified by an independent MCERTS inspector. HPA provided the Environment Agency with a Best Available Techniques (BAT) assessment for non-routine procedures and we are satisfied that the proposal is sufficient for a temporary period whilst they procure a replacement MCERTS certified flowmeter. We will be monitoring the situation and reviewing the root cause of the event.

Hinkley Point B

The liquid and gaseous discharges from Hinkley Point B were below any notification levels and within permitted limits. The Environmental Monitoring Programme data was submitted within the required timescales and the review identified no trends of concern.

Environmental impact

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

Additionally, the Environment Agencies and Food Standards Agency carry out independent environmental monitoring around nuclear sites. The results of this work are published in our annual Radioactivity in Food and the Environment (RIFE) report (1). We will continue to follow Government guidelines with Safe Systems of Work in place, with regards to our monitoring of the environment and foodstuffs.

The 2024 RIFE report was published in November 2025 and is available here: Radioactivity in food and the environment (RIFE) report - GOV.UK (www.gov.uk).

Overall in the UK, between 2023 and 2024 there were no significant changes to the radioactivity measured in food and the environment. 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. 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.

At Hinkley the 'Total dose' from all pathways and sources of radiation was 0.014mSv, or approximately 1.4% of the dose limit to members of the public. This is a decrease from 0.032mSv in 2023. Liquid discharges of tritium and caesium-137 from Hinkley Point A and tritium from Hinkley Point B decreased in 2024 compared to 2023. The decrease in 'total dose' was mostly due to the revision of habits information.

Other News

Habits Survey

The habits survey undertaken on our behalf by Cefas in the Hinkley area was completed in August 2024 and published in March 2025. For more information on the Habits Survey please follow this [link](#).

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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 ⁽ⁱⁱ⁾ of the GOV.UK website.

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

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

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

Hinkley Point A:

Alister Wintle

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Hinkley Point B:

Victoria Thomas

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

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

Hinkley Point A&B – SSG

Members vote on meeting frequency - Conducted January/February 2026

Introduction

Following discussion at recent meetings, the Chair of the Hinkley SSG asked the Secretariat to seek members' views on whether the current meeting schedule of two meetings per year should remain, or whether the group should return to three meetings annually.

A short survey was therefore issued to the membership, setting out the context for the current arrangements, including the reduced level of site activity during decommissioning, alignment with regulator reporting cycles, and attendance considerations.

Members were invited to indicate their preferred meeting frequency, provide supporting rationale, and suggest any additional information they felt should be included in future reporting.

This report summarises the responses received and highlights the key themes emerging from the survey.

Hinkley Point A&B – SSG

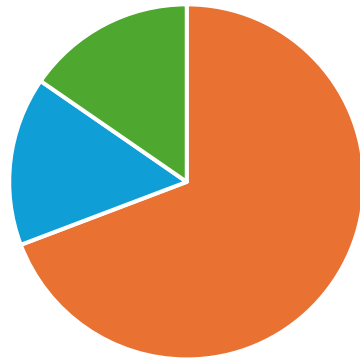
Members vote on meeting frequency – Conducted January/February 2026

Email requesting feedback sent to 53 members – Voting, Non-voting, Council representatives

13 responses received

9 Voting members
2 Non-voting members
2 Council representatives

Responses received

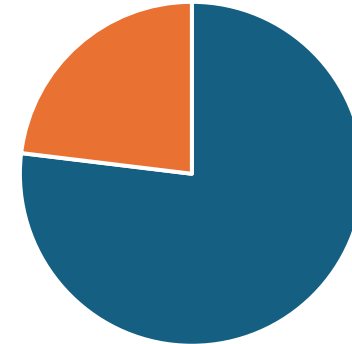


■ Voting members ■ Non-voting members ■ Council representatives

Outcome

10 Votes to remain at 2 meetings a year
3 Votes to increase to 3 meetings a year

Outcome



■ 2 meetings ■ 3 meetings

Hinkley Point A&B – SSG

Members vote on meeting frequency – Conducted January/February 2026

Key themes from member feedback	
Arguments for retaining two meetings per year	Arguments for increasing to three meetings per year
• The current volume and quality of written updates and reports circulated between meetings is considered sufficient by many members. • Meetings are sometimes shorter than scheduled, with limited questions for presenters. • Members noted that additional meetings would not generate new information, as regulatory reporting cycles (particularly ONR) already operate independently of meeting frequency. • There is support for the option of extraordinary meetings should a specific issue or risk arise that cannot wait until the next scheduled meeting. • Some members felt that two meetings are proportionate to the reduced risk profile and current stage of site activity.	• A minority of respondents felt that six months between meetings is too long for an operation of this importance. • Some emphasised the value of face-to-face discussion for shared understanding, questions, and community feedback. • Others referenced the previous arrangement of three meetings per year as having supported stronger engagement.

Hinkley Point A&B – SSG

Members vote on meeting frequency – Conducted January/February 2026

A selection of the comments and feedback received:

“Given that the past few years has seen the de-furling of HPB, I was vehemently opposed to the reduction in the frequency the SSG meetings. SSG meetings were always an opportunity for attendees to feed back to their local communities. The reduction in meetings seemed to be a decision almost forced upon the regular, and long standing attendees. I feel very strongly that meetings should return to three times a year.”

“I am supportive of a return to three meetings per year ... a return to three meetings per year would enhance engagement, improve the timeliness of regulatory discussion, and reflect the successful arrangements previously in place.”

“Personally I am happy with the two meetings a year at the present time. It is possible that circumstances may change when HPC comes on stream and we have to reevaluate what we do as a group. Over the past year 18 months the flow of relevant information and reports being sent out to members has increased to the extent that further meetings are not necessary. We all have the means to contact people in between meetings if it is required and receive a direct answer to a direct question. Two meeting are sufficient at the present time thank you.”

“I am happy with 2 meetings each year. “

Hinkley Point A&B – SSG

Members vote on meeting frequency – Conducted January/February 2026

A selection of the comments and feedback received:

“Yes, I would prefer to return to 3 meetings, a six-month period is too long a break for such an important operation.

I appreciate you kindly forward info via email, but meeting face to face brings questions and answers for all.”

“Personally I am happy with the two meetings a year at the present time.
It is possible that circumstances may change when HPC comes on stream and we have to reevaluate what we do as a group.
Over the past year 18 months the flow of relevant information and reports being sent out to members has increased to the extent that further meetings are not necessary.
We all have the means to contact people in between meetings if it is required and receive a direct answer to a direct question.
Two meetings are sufficient at the present time thank you.”

*“Any increase in meeting frequency should be proportionate to the amount of content needing to be covered in an agenda.
I am not personally aware of anything that would justify an increase to three meetings at this time, but happy to be educated otherwise?
This also does not negate the option of holding an extraordinary meeting if required due to a specific issue/risk which needs to be discussed and cannot wait until the next meeting
The changes at HPB and the reduced risk are likely to see changes in the emergency arrangements and planning this year.
However, I do not anticipate any requirement for additional SSG meetings due to this particular matter from a Local Authority perspective.*

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Overall conclusion

The responses demonstrate that, whilst there is a range of views, the majority of responding members support maintaining the current schedule of two meetings per year.

The feedback also indicates openness to revisiting the issue in the future should circumstances change, and recognition that extraordinary or targeted meetings remain an available option if needed.