Site Stakeholder Group

Hinkley Point Site Stakeholder Group

Venue: The Canalside, Bridgwater
Tuesday, 15th September 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 17th March 2026**
   - Accuracy & matters arising
5. **09.55** **Site Director's report – Hinkley Point A site** - Mark Pitts (including NDA and NRS updates)
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.

   AGR Transition – Sohail Ashraf
8. **10:45** **ONR reports Hinkley A&B** – Paul Jenneson
9. **11.00** **Environment Agency reports Hinkley A&B** - Alister Wintle/Lucy Platts

10. **11.15 Chair's report and to note items circulated between meetings**.

- NDA Review – Hinkley SSG

To note items circulated between meetings:

- Email - EA notice of Meet the Regulators event (sent 18/03/2026)
- Email - HPB Redetermination (sent 18/03/2026)
- Email - Notice from John McNamara (sent 17/04/2026)
- Email - Notice from Environment Agency (sent 11/05/2026)
- Email - Reminder notice from Environment Agency (sent 20/05/26)
- Email - HPB Determination update (sent 21/05/2026)
- Email – Reminder notice from Environment Agency (sent 03/06/26)
- Email – Update from Somerset Council (sent 03/06/26)
- Email – NuLeaf May Newsletter (sent 03/06/26)
- Email – Notice on behalf of the NDA re David Peattie (sent 17/06/26)
- Email – B Station off site arrangements (sent 22/06/26
- Email – NDA Review – Hinkley SSG (sent 15/07/26)
- Email – NuLeaf Newsletter – July (sent 30/07/26)

11. **11.35 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@nrsservices.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, 16 March 2027

HINKLEY SITE STAKEHOLDER GROUP (SSG)
Tuesday, 17 March 2026
The Canalside, Marsh Lane, Bridgwater, Somerset

Attendees:

Cllr Leigh Redman	Chair
Graham Pearn	Vice Chair
Cllr H Davies	Somerset Councillor for Watchet, Williton and Stogursey
Cllr S Goss	Stogursey Parish Council
Cllr C Morgan	Stogursey Parish Council
Cllr K Hewson	Bawdrip Parish Council
Mr A Jeffery	Green Party
Cllr R Perrett	Otterhampton Parish Council
Cllr M Phillips	Wembdon Parish Council
Cllr J Roberts	Nether Stowey Parish Council
Ms M Smith	West Somerset Green Forum
Ms T Bond	Somerset Council
Mr N Kimmins	Somerset Council
Mr A Bedford	Amentum
Mr J Freeman	Independent
Mr J Smolden	Stop Hinkley
Mr R Wallis	Staff of Ms R Gilmour MP
Mr M Pitts	HPA Site Director
Mrs S Fry	Regional Communications and Socio-economic Lead
Mr D Uminski	HPB Station Director
Ms H Dyer	Environmental Safety & Chemistry Group Head
Mr D Stokes	Communications Officer
Mr M Pardo	External Communications Manager
Mr B Broadley	ONR Hinkley B
Ms N Caplin	Environment Agency
Ms L Platts	Environment Agency
Mr A Wintle	Environment Agency
Mr J McNamara	NDA
Ms P Hatt	NDA
Dr J Long	NDA
Mrs Kate Whittle	Minute Taker

1. Welcome and Introduction – Cllr Leigh Redman - Chair

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 Vice Chair.

2. Apologies for absence

Apologies were received from Cllr J Addison – Cannington Parish Council; Mr A Debenham – Stop Hinkley; Ms R Gilmour – MP for Tiverton and Minehead; Cllr M Hodson – Spaxton Parish Council; Ms V Thomas – Environment Agency

3. Open public Q&A session

Q: A question was raised about why there is not a separate "HPC stakeholder group" and what role this group plays relative to broader issues.
A: The Chair advised that EDF previously chose to operate separate communication forums for HPC Station including a main site forum, transport forum and community forum. Those forums are continuing until there is a case when there is some fuel on the station.
The SSG will continue to remind EDF about the SSG and encourage engagement, noting there is overlap in membership.

4. Minutes of last meeting

Minutes of the meeting held 23 September 2025 had been previously circulated.

It was confirmed that the ongoing approach is to circulate reports two weeks prior to meetings to allow reading and submission of questions in advance to guarantee responses, with technical questions taken away for written answers.

Lucy Platt (Environment Agency) clarified that whilst Paragraph 160 referenced consultation on transfer of a radioactive substances permit, there is no consultation on transferring the permit.

Action Points Follow-Up:
Bill Hamilton (Director of External Affairs, NRS) provided follow-up on a prior action point regarding plans for the use of the site after Hinkley B is decommissioned. He confirmed that NRS is undertaking a programme across UK sites to engage communities on a variety of topics including what is good about their community and what they want improved; what they know about the site and its future; views on decommissioning strategies (faster vs slower); ideas for future site uses.

Mr Hamilton advised that a "deep dive" had been undertaken at Hinkley A, which included a wider range of topics and involved local focus groups.

NRS committed to involving the SSG in future discussions and making the report available via the SSG once completed.

Q: A question referenced a press article citing a specific end date for the decommissioning.
A: Mr Hamilton advised that any quoted date is a planning assumption rather than a firm commitment. The chair indicated the press-article point would be taken away as an action to seek definitive information.

Q: A concern was raised referencing a previous presentation about "restored to nature" at Wylfa and subsequent announcements about new nuclear.
A: Mr Hamilton stated that the decommissioning/restoration discussion related to the existing Wylfa site managed by NRS, while proposed new nuclear would be on a separate adjacent site, analogous to A/B/C station adjacency.

The minutes were accepted as a true and accurate record.

5. NRS Hinkley Point A Site Report – Mark Pitts

Safety & environmental performance

- Overall safety performance remains good; reporting culture strong (best in fleet)
- Minor events largely weather-related (aging infrastructure)
- EA warning letter issued re Environmental Monitoring Programme review lapse. Document update committed by month end; improved internal review controls agreed.

Waste retrievals & facilities

- Wet vault retrievals ahead of schedule
- Dry Vault Retrieval Project progressing
- ILW shipments exceeded target (10 achieved vs 8 planned)
- PCF now in active commissioning
- Milwep restart more complex than expected
- First box into store expected imminently.

Organisation & transition

- New organisational structure moving projects closer to Site Director with the aim of: tighter control of headcount, cost and delivery to be implemented by end April. Approach applies fleet-wide
- Support and learning shared with Hinkley B in preparation for transition.

Delivery priorities

- “Blue chips” remain protected priorities (80/20 focus)
- Culture improvement actions completed
- ST2 waste processing slowed deliberately to ensure repeatable performance
- Mosaic Loading Facility HAZOP delayed pending design maturity.

Waste map & classification

- 14 settling tanks confirmed
- Fuel element debris treated as ILW; higher dose items routed via Mosaic
- End-state expectation: ~400 waste packages in store.

Workforce & recruitment

- Hinkley A training school performing well; supports wider fleet
- Apprentice intake starting 7 September (26); roles expanding beyond technicians
- 14 additional posts approved to strengthen support functions.

Community, charity & sustainability

- Community funding continues with local focus
- Ongoing volunteering activities noted
- Charity fundraising shifted to targeted outcomes (cuddle cot achieved)
- Sustainability priorities: carbon literacy, habitat management, reducing generator use.

Visits & engagement

- NDA CEO and local MP visit received positive feedback
- Community roadshows scheduled to support awareness and recruitment.

Member discussion items

- Interest raised in preserving A station control room (for Chair's report)
- Clarified: Hinkley B under EDF; Hinkley A under NRS/government
- Village shop reopening funding request encouraged via proposal
- Supply chain resilience discussed; potential for shared spares across sites
- Funding impact on Hinkley A minimal due to risk priority
- Question on long-term decommissioning funding taken away.

6. EDF Hinkley Point B Site Report - Des Uminski

Des Uminski introduced himself to the group with a brief background.

Safety performance & culture

- Strong safety and environmental performance (one historic top-tier event - transformer failure)
- Minimal injuries: one minor lost-time incident in the last year and a small number of first-aid cases.

Environmental performance & management

- ONR formal sign-off achieved for EIADR
- Environmental scope covers the full site; management plan being finalised
- Sustainability metrics to align with NRS; most waste expected to be recyclable clean waste.

Defueling & fuel-free verification

- Reactors fully defueled; final flask left site on 28 November, with ONR fuel-free verification signed off on 12 January
- Nearly 5,000 fuel elements removed; over 2,000 flasks dispatched during station life, including 360 since end of generation
- Significant efficiency gains achieved between Reactor 4 and Reactor 3 defueling
- All difficult fuel successfully removed, with lessons learned shared across AGR stations.

Transition to decommissioning & organisational change

- Site is fuel-free and focus is on stabilisation and readiness for decommissioning
- Transfer from EDF to NRS on 1 October, with learning from Hunterston B's transition Focus will be on supporting people through the operational-to-decommissioning change
- Management team reduced to Station Director plus five lead team members.

Plant condition, asset care, and infrastructure investment

- Ongoing investment critical for long-term structures, with over £2m per year spent on infrastructure
- Major works (roofs, cladding, glazing) lead into continuous maintenance cycles, reflecting the long-term nature of site care.

Hazard reduction programme

- Significant post-generation hazard reduction
- Over 1m litres of kerosene removed, with usable material returned to the supply chain where possible
- Major plant shutdowns and drainage completed, reducing operating cost and risk
- Site exited COMAH regulations in April 2024

- Ongoing work to further reduce conventional hazards and achieve a benign plant state for decommissioning.

Site works, waste facility & reuse initiatives
- Redundant contractor buildings cleared to facilitate decommissioning activities
- Strong reuse and sustainability focus.

Emergency arrangements, security & CNC
- Emergency arrangements revised to reflect fuel-free, industrial-site risk
- CNC requirement being stood down pending ONR sign-off; community presence expected to continue short-term. From end of April, CNC will no longer be claimed in a formal station capacity.

Cooling water & effluent discharge changes
- Cooling water intake reduced to one pump
- New small discharge line proposed to prevent silting of the existing outlet
- Discharges limited to treated sewage and infrequent, low-impact pond water arisings
- Commitment to share plans early and address coastal impact concerns through permitting and regulation.

Funding & cost responsibility
- Defueling and post-generation costs are funded through the Nuclear Liabilities Fund (NLF) - drawdown began during defueling
- Commitment to issue a briefing to explain NLF funding arrangements post-generation.

Railhead status & community legacy
- Railhead owned by Transport Solutions and no longer required following completion of defueling
- Potential community or legacy use raised; site acknowledged and agreed to take the discussion forward as a longer-term consideration.

Sellafield governance & waste handling
- Concern raised over oversight and democratic assurance for material sent to Sellafield. Mr Uminski noted that the industry is highly regulated, and signposted the question to the NDA, with a commitment to take it away and respond outside the meeting.

Station milestones, community & charity
- 50 years of AGR generation; first AGR connected to the Grid in February 1976, with generation ending in 2022 and defuelling starting September 2022
- Continued community engagement through visits, family days, and stakeholder hosting
- £31,000 raised for Alzheimer's Society.

8. ONR Reports A&B – Paul Jenneson
- ONR representative (Paul) absent; ONR report taken as read.
- Opportunity offered for members to submit questions for formal recording and response.

9. Environment Agency report - Hinkley Point A

- EMP inspection identified a missed plan review; EA issued a warning letter, with an updated plan submitted and under review
- Solid waste inspection was positive, with no non-compliances
- Records inspection scheduled for late March / early April
- Discharge reporting remains compliant; one flow-meter certification issue notified to EA and being resolved without impact on monitoring confidence.

Environment Agency report: Hinkley Point B (Key findings)

- December 2025 inspection of standby combustion plant found no non-compliances and highlighted good practice in plant isolation and retirement
- FGAS inspection fully compliant, with strong arrangements, training, certification, and forward replacement planning
- EA engagement ongoing to support alternative effluent discharge arrangements as cooling water pumps are shut down
- Overall compliance remains strong, with no non-compliances, discharges within limits, and monitoring data submitted on time.

Environmental monitoring programme updates

- Coastal sediment movement was noted, with tidal movements carrying sediments toward Vancouver
- The environmental monitoring programme covers a range of sites across the coastline, extending from the west side of the South Park toward the west of Superman
- Additional monitoring is being conducted on the Parrot site.

EA engagement Post-transfer to NRS

Q: SSG requested clarity on how EA engagement and inspections may change once both sites are under NRS and hazards reduce

A: EA confirmed engagement will continue, with significant focus on operator/permit transfer and management system changes

- Ongoing permit transfer and shadow-working arrangements noted
- EA indicated a briefing could be provided, subject to clarification of SSG information needs.

RIFE – Radioactivity in food & the environment

- RIFE complements EA regulation, providing annual reporting and long-term trend context using site discharge data, EA monitoring, witness monitoring, and independent laboratory analysis
- Involves wider environmental and food-chain sampling alongside emissions data, with UKHSA and specialist contractors supporting analysis and reporting.

Actions & follow-ups captured from the discussion

- Take away Sellafield governance/assurance question and provide a response (likely via NDA input)
- Circulate a notice/briefing on the Nuclear Liabilities Fund (NLF) and broad funding arrangements from end of generation onward
- Confirm definitive CNC headcount (estimated ~50) and report back
- Share developing active effluent discharge modification plans with stakeholders when available, to support early review and discussion of potential coastal impacts
- Railhead potential legacy/community use to be explored with the relevant owner/parties (Transport Solutions), continuing the conversation

- EA to consider a briefing to explain how regulation/inspection planning works through the transition to NRS and as site risk profiles change (subject to agreeing information needs).

10. Chairs report and to note items circulated between minutes

Organisational changes & meeting participation

- NDA will no longer attend meetings, reflecting stabilised NRS restructuring and site additions
- NRS now operates with three chief executives and three managing directors; site directors report directly to a managing director
- From the new financial year, NRS corporate reporting will no longer be provided in the same format.

Chair updates: Information sharing between meetings

- The Chair reiterated his commitment to keep members informed of key information and decisions between meetings
- Members were encouraged to continue raising questions and seeking clarification
- It was that staff departures during the transition period have slowed responses, though this is improving.

Senior leadership engagement and reporting

- SSG Chairs and Vice-Chairs will meet with senior leadership (NDA/NRS) quarterly
- The Chair intends to request a briefing note to share with members, to capture key points and avoid uncertainty over what is most important.

11. AOB

Community engagement & roadshows

- Community roadshows scheduled for next week (town on Tuesday, retail park on Wednesday). SSG encouraged to drop in to discuss the site's future, including decommissioning.

Potential visit / Further engagement

- Both sides agreed in principle to a visit to gain better shared understanding (date TBC).

Heritage, legacy & museum collaboration

- Strong local interest in recognising the site's legacy and community connections. Intention to digitally archive materials so the site's history can be viewed over time.
- Chair visited the Blake Museum (Bridgwater), which is supportive of a potential display. Follow-up planned to explore collaboration, including use of historical construction photos.

Questions raised and responses

Q: Would reducing meetings to two per year (linked to perceived NDA cutbacks on SSG-related activity) affect Chair/Vice-Chair remuneration (suggestion was a possible one-third reduction due to reduced administration)?

A: The Chair acknowledged it as a fair question and stated it would be discussed outside the meeting.

Q: Clarification was sought regarding "streaming" and a prior discussion about returning to three meetings per year

A: The Chair referenced a detailed report page sent out in the briefing pack

Meeting logistics, environment, and close

- An attendee commented on difficulty concentrating due to heat/lights and multiple speakers. The Chair apologised and committed to improving the environment for the next meeting.

The meeting was closed, with thanks given to attendees.

Next meeting date: 15th of September

NRS
Nuclear Restoration Services

Hinkley Point A

Site Stakeholder Group Site Report







September 2026

Mark Pitts, Hinkley Point A - Site Director



Introduction

Since the last SSG, I'm happy to report the progress made regarding previously mentioned environmental issues. We now have a fully operational sampler back on our discharge line, and the Environmental Monitoring Plan has been fully updated.

Our project milestone performance is also good, with one already delivered and the rest on target. Whilst we have had a couple of minor events, our safety, security and environmental performance remains good.

The Low-Level Waste team has managed to complete four shipments this year, with a further nine planned for this financial year.

Regarding Higher Activity Waste progress, we have now completed significant maintenance work on two of our major plant areas, the PCF (Pre-Conditioning Facility) and MILWEP (Modular Intermediate Level Waste Encapsulation Plant).

Despite some issues caused by the very hot summer, we are now in a good position to deliver at least five completed packages into the store by the end of the financial year.

I look forward to seeing some of you on site on 8 September.

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.

In my last report, I said I wanted to focus on document review. I'm pleased to report that we have made significant improvements in this area.

I had previously reported on two environmental-related challenges: our Monitoring Plan needed review, and there were calibration issues with a proportional discharge sampler. Both of these issues have now been resolved.

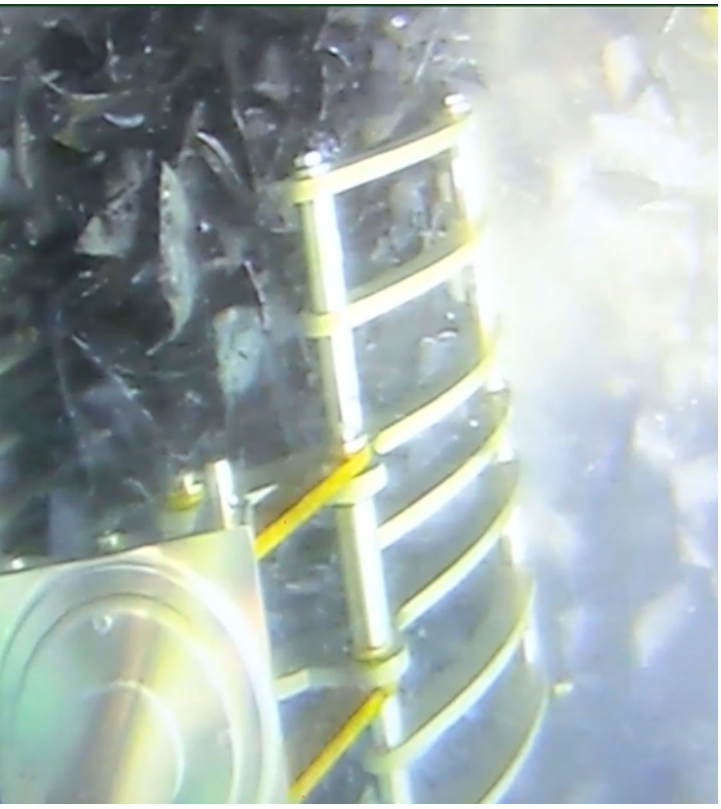




Final packages to the store

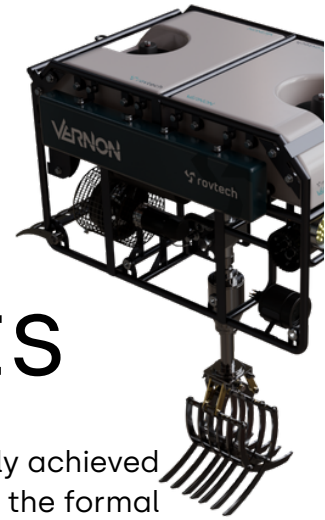
We have completed our first planned maintenance shutdown in MILWEP (Modular Intermediate Level Waste Encapsulation Plant). Return to service has been challenging, as we have tight quality constraints on the raw materials used to manufacture the package lids, and the recent hot weather appears to have caused some cement powders to fall outside specification.

We remain committed to delivering at least six packages into the store this year, and we already have three filled packages ready for lidding.









Key Projects

Hinkley Point A has successfully achieved a Group Key Target (GKT) with the formal handover of its Remotely Operated Vehicle (ROV) to High Active Waste (HAW) Operations, marking a major milestone in the site's Fuel Element Debris (FED) retrieval programme.

Critical path activities continue to make good progress. Our ILW (Intermediate Level Waste) retrieval target for the financial year is 21 tonnes, and we are currently at 7.2 tonnes.

I am pleased to say we have put our final ILW package into the store. The store remains in the commissioning phase until we have completed a few more packages.

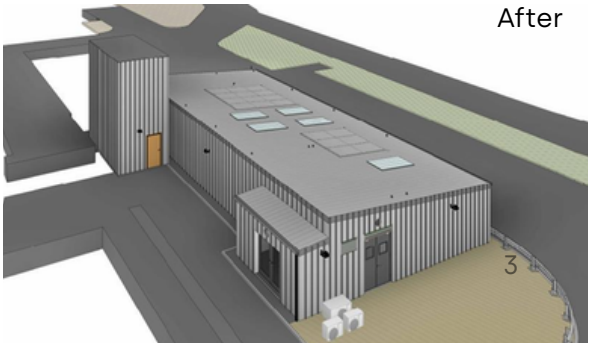
A decision has been made to terminate the contract with Cavendish Nuclear Ltd on the Dry Vaults Project. Based on what we've learned to date, it's clear an alternative approach is required to ensure successful delivery.

The project continues, and we are currently developing options for the most efficient way to progress.

Asset care projects continue. This year, we have a large project to build new welfare and changing facilities closer to the ILW retrieval plants (photos below).









People

We remain firmly committed to developing the next generation of talent from our local communities. The Hinkley A apprenticeship programme has been successfully running since 2021, and we are developing stronger links through work experience and STEM activities to encourage greater awareness of apprenticeship opportunities so that we can develop a skilled workforce for our industry and region.

Apprentices

Our apprentice programme continues, with the next cohort of seven joining us at Hinkley, contributing to more than 40 apprentices recruited this year across the NRS fleet.

Work Experience

Since the end of March 2026, three weeks of work experience placements for students from five different schools have taken place. A total of 19 young people have attended the site. In addition, we supported a careers workshop for 10-year-olds, attended by more than 30 students.

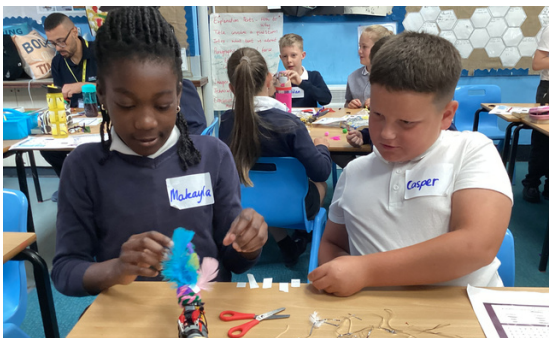
Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM)

We continue to deliver a healthy STEM programme.
Since March, the team has continued to support local STEM engagement and careers outreach through a range of school and community events, reaching more than 230 young people. Five school visits were completed between April and July, with a community day in August attended by 84 children.

Cannington Primary School, Puriton Primary School, Northgate Primary School, St James Church School and St Andrews Primary School were all involved. Sessions had between 30 and 60 students in attendance.









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Community News

Socio-economic funding

Since the start of the 2026/27 financial year, Hinkley Point A has supported two socio-economic projects with total funding of £43,755. This includes a £755 Good Neighbour grant to Bridgwater Sports Football Club to help establish a new youth team and purchase kit for the 2026/27 season.

We have also continued our support for the Somerset Education Business Partnership, committing £43,000 this year as part of a four-year, £172,000 funding programme. The partnership connects young people with local employers through careers education, work experience and targeted employment support, having already engaged more than 4,400 young people in a single year. These investments reflect our ongoing commitment to supporting opportunities for local communities and helping young people develop the skills needed for future careers.

Charity

Charley's Wish, HPA's chosen site charity this year, received £5,250 through a range of fundraising activities organised and supported by employees and contractors across site. The money will help the charity continue providing mental health and wellbeing support, counselling, and suicide prevention services to people across Somerset.

Volunteering

Hinkley Point A employees have continued to support their local community through volunteering, including helping Taunton Open Door with practical tasks such as painting, DIY and food service, and taking part in a beach clean with Surfers Against Sewage, removing litter from the Somerset coastline. These activities demonstrate the site's ongoing commitment to supporting local causes and improving the environment.





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 January – 30 June 2026

Authored by: Nominated Site Inspector

Approved by: Head of Regulation

Issue: 1

Published: July 2026

Record reference: SDFW-1782333081-30667

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/llcssg-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 inspectors made inspections on the following dates during the report period 1 January – 30 June 2026:

- 4 January 2026
- 30 April 2026
- 28 May 2026
- 11 June 2026

2. Routine matters

2.1. Inspections

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

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

- management of operations including control and supervision
- radioactive waste management
- decommissioning
- quality assurance and records
- 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 7 January 2026 and the newly formed Hinkley Point A and Hinkley Point B Quarterly Regulator Interface Meeting on the 22 April 2026 to discuss issues, events and project milestone updates at the sites. The overall site performance for NRS Hinkley Point A 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.

The Head of Regulation for the Decommissioning, Fuel and Waste ONR sub-directorate visited the site with the site inspector on the 11 June 2026.

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
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Merton Road
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L20 7HS
Website: www.onr.org.uk
Email: contact@onr.gov.uk

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References

There are no sources in the current document.

Office for Nuclear Regulation

ONR site report

EDF Nuclear Generation Ltd – Hinkley Point B

ONR site report

EDF Nuclear Generation Ltd - Hinkley Point B

Report for period: 1 January – 30 December 2026

Authored by: Nominated Site Inspector

Approved by: Head of Regulation

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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 January – 30 June 2026:

- 5 & 22 January 2026
- 10 March 2026
- 28 April 2026
- 6, 13, 20, 21 & 27 May 2026
- 11, 15 & 16 June 2026

2. Routine matters

2.1. Inspections

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

- The conditions attached by ONR to the nuclear site licence granted under the Nuclear Installations Act 1965 (NIA65) (as amended);
- The Energy Act 2013;
- The Health and Safety at Work etc Act 1974 (HSWA74);
- 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:

- radioactive waste management
- decommissioning
- conventional (non-nuclear) health and safety
- 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

ONR confirmed on the 12 January 2026, that it has completed its planned compliance inspection activities relating to fuel free verification for Hinkley Point B and based on the evidence sampled it accepts EDF's statement that the station is free of all fuel. Following this acceptance of fuel free verification the station moved from the governance of ONR's Operating Reactors sub-directorate to the Decommissioning, Fuel and Waste (DFW) sub-directorate and a DFW inspector was appointed as the nominated site inspector.

ONR also confirmed on 9 February 2026 that is was content for EDF Hinkley Point B to implement its Post-Defueling Safety Case in place of the previous Operational Safety Case and approved its revised Emergency Arrangements on the 6 March 2026 under Licence Condition 11.

The current focus now at Hinkley Point B is the transition from EDF to NRS with the relicensing planned for 1 October 2026. DFW has appointed a Transition Project Officer, the Officer who lead the Hunterston B transition, as well as a nominated site inspector. The usual compliance inspections of EDF arrangements at Hinkley Point B have been paused and a series of themed readiness engagements are currently underway. This includes: Emergency Arrangements, Radioactive Waste Management, Construction (Design and Management) Regulations 2015 and Decommissioning to ensure the station is ready to transition to NRS arrangements at the point of relicensing. DFW inspectors have made frequent visits to the site during this period to familiarise and gain regulatory intelligence about the site.

The nominated site inspector attended the newly formed Hinkley Point A and Hinkley Point B Quarterly Regulator Interface Meeting on the 22 April 2026 to discuss issues, events and project milestone updates at the sites. The overall site performance for Hinkley Point B remains adequate and no new significant issues were identified.

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

The Head of Regulation for the Decommissioning, Fuel and Waste ONR sub-directorate visited the site with the nominated site inspector on the 11 June 2026.

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.

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
6/3/2026	Approval	ONRW-2019369590-22090	Approval of the Hinkley Point B Nuclear Power Station Post Fuel Free Verification Emergency Plan under LC11(3).

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

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Environment Agency report to the Hinkley Point Site Stakeholder Group

September 2026

Introduction

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

Regulatory compliance interactions associated with the Radioactive Substances Regulation (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 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:

Records Management Inspection:

We completed a Records Management inspection on the 24th March 2026. RSR Permit ZP3693SL requires Nuclear Restoration Services Limited (NRS) to make and keep records demonstrating compliance and provide information to the Environment

Agency as requested. Further requirements on the use of records, their management and retention are specified within the Compilation of Environment Agency Requirements, Approvals and Specifications (CEAR). Further guidance is supplied in our Radioactive Substances Management Generic Developed Principles (RSMDP).

During previous inspections, records associated with operational activities have been sampled with comments and advice and guidance provided. Operational discharge and environmental monitoring records are provided quarterly to the Environment Agency, with the quality and detail checked and found to be adequate. This inspection focused on the management system procedure that NRS uses to identify records, the format of records, storage locations, availability and retention in line with the CEAR requirements.

NRS was found to have an adequate system for identifying and recording records. No non compliances were identified. There are clear roles and responsibilities for record management, with systems in place to ensure that when records are created, they are stored and maintained. NRS was able to demonstrate how records are safely stored in an organised system.

Pollution Inventory Inspection:

We completed a Pollution Inventory Inspection on the 1st July 2026. The purpose of this inspection was to focus on the Pollution Inventory (PI) process used by HPA. We were seeking assurance that HPA is compliant with the requirements of its RSR permit, in addition to the CEAR requirement for the collection, collation, review and submission of PI data.

The Environment Agency's PI database provides information about the releases of substances from sites that hold environmental permits for the disposal of radioactive wastes. It consists of the annual emission values of listed substances (radionuclides) to air, sewers and controlled waters.

The inspection took place over one day on site at HPA. It involved interviewing relevant Suitably Qualified and Experienced Persons (SQEP) responsible for the HPA PI return, including a member of the corporate Technical Environment Asset Management (TEAM) team, a review of NRS management system documents and a review of previous PI returns.

No non-compliances with the RSR permit were identified during this inspection. Advice and guidance have been provided for HPA to ensure its procedures show clear responsibility and ownership of the tools used. In addition, operational instructions and associated work cards should be updated to reflect the changes to the PI return process.

Planned Inspections:

We have planned a Suitably Qualified and Experience Persons (SQEP) Baseline Inspection September/October 2026. This inspection will review the organisational baseline resource to enable compliance with environmental permitting requirements.

Hinkley Point B

An overview of our regulatory compliance activities at 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.

Inspections:

Management of aqueous, gaseous, and solid radioactive waste Inspection:

On the 2nd and 3rd June 2026, we examined HPB's management arrangements supporting the requirements for gaseous and aqueous emissions, and Low Level Waste (LLW). This inspection was a high-level overview, assessing changes that have taken place since the permit variation EPR/CB3735DT/V008 became effective on the 1st December 2025. In addition to assessing permit compliance under EDF arrangements, we used this opportunity to seek assurance of the station's readiness for the proposed transfer of the permit to NRS in October 2026.

The inspection took place over two days and involved a site walkdown of the Active Effluent Treatment Plant (AETP) and Ponds, the Contaminated Radioactive Waste Disposal (CRAWD) facility, the Main Waste Compound, the Wood and Metal Compound, and the Waste Oil Stores. EDF demonstrated different aspects of the gaseous effluent management system during the site walkdown. This included a contaminated gas effluent plant room, ventilation ducts and associated sampling within the reactor pile cap hall for reactors 3 and 4, and the gallery area around the reactors. External ventilation ducts and stacks were also highlighted where visible.

The activities we viewed and that were described by staff, match the EDF management procedures. Our expectations of activities against permit requirements, support our general observations and reflect the compliance data provided during the regulatory year. The aqueous and gaseous discharge points match the requirements of the permit, with procedures updated to reflect the changes required by the variation that became effective in December 2025. The solid waste areas viewed were tidy, secure, with good segregation. There was a good understanding of Low Level Waste arisings, with a plan for maximising LLW disposal before transfer. Asset care

improvements were in process during the inspection, and we will review the outcomes once complete.

There was good engagement from HPB staff, demonstrating good knowledge and understanding of disposal activities, and their roles and responsibilities within these processes. The teams responsible for compliance with the environmental permit and operations of assets and equipment for aqueous, gaseous and solid waste disposals have transitioned from the operational to the decommissioning structure. This organisational structure will transfer across to NRS. Evidence was provided of preparations for transfer with parallel working using NRS procedures, learning plans and early engagement with NRS specialist peer groups. Information on the identification of future SQEP roles and how they plan to fulfil them at HPB was also provided.

As a high-level review of aqueous, gaseous and solid waste disposals no non-compliances were identified.

Higher Activity Waste (HAW) Inspection:

We completed a HAW inspection on the 16-17th June 2026. The purpose of this inspection was to assess compliance of HAW management activities at HPB against the requirements of the RSR permit EPR/CB3735DT. In addition, the inspection sought to gain assurance that arrangements for HAW management, including associated records, are sufficient in the context of the planned transfer of the station from EDF to NRS in October 2026.

The two-day inspection consisted of office-based discussions and site walkdowns, including visits to the CRAWD facility, the ion exchange resin storage tank, sludge storage tanks, and the ponds.

During the inspection, strong EDF corporate knowledge was evident; however, continued effective transfer of this knowledge to NRS will be important to maintain capability post-transfer. HAW management arrangements appeared adequate for the current phase of the site lifecycle, though a number of areas remain immature and are expected to develop further as the site transitions to NRS and progresses towards retrieval activities.

We will continue to engage with EDF and NRS on joint working arrangements around the transfer, including the setting up of relevant Technical Working Groups. We suggested that NRS holds joint HPA/HPB HAW keep in touch meetings in future, starting at the next planned HPA meeting in September.

We did not identify any permit non-compliances during the inspection.

Planned Inspections:

An Environmental Monitoring Programme (EMP) inspection is planned for Autumn 2026.

Other Activities:

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 is considering alternative discharge arrangements that demonstrate BAT for the discharge of aqueous effluents into the Bristol Channel without the MCW flow.

The Environment Agency is 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 RSR permit EPR/CB3735DT for Hinkley Point B Power Station from its current operator EDF to a new operator, NRS.

We do not consult on permit transfers. 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.

The Environment Agency is working to a permit determination date of the 17th September 2026. If the application is successful, the permit transfer is expected to take place on the 1st October 2026.

EPR/BB3697DV District Survey Laboratory at Combwich Wharf:

The Environment Agency received an application to surrender the District Survey Laboratory at Combwich Wharf, on the 14th May 2026. Following a review of the information provided we issued a surrender notice that came into effect on the 17th August 2026.

The operator has demonstrated that appropriate disposal and transfer routes were available for all radioactive materials and wastes associated with the facility.

The operator has provided evidence that all un-sealed radioactive material, radioactive waste and retained environmental samples have been removed from the facility or transferred to appropriate authorised locations.

All sealed radioactive sources were returned to authorised site locations. Analytical equipment containing radioactive materials was removed from the facility and transferred to an authorised contractor. Environmental samples were transferred to the HPB nuclear licensed site Radiochemistry Laboratory (RCL), which is covered by RSR permit EPR/CB3735DT. The management of sealed radioactive sources on a nuclear licensed site is regulated by the ONR.

Annual Pollution Inventory reporting remained below reporting thresholds throughout the operational life of the facility. Routine radiological monitoring and final verification surveys provide confidence that radioactive materials have been appropriately managed and removed.

The operator has provided evidence that all radioactive material, radioactive waste and retained environmental samples have been removed from the facility or transferred to appropriate authorised locations.

The facility was subject to routine monthly contamination surveys and annual site surveys throughout operation. A final radiological survey confirmed the absence of radioactive material and contamination within the facility. A drain survey identified only environmental levels of naturally occurring radioactive material (NORM). We are therefore satisfied that no significant radiological risk remains.

Events and enforcement

Hinkley point A

Aqueous discharge event.

The Environment Agency were notified of an event that took place on the 9th December 2025. As part of the procedure to authorise aqueous discharges, NRS has a range of checks and samples that are required. Its management system sets markers that are indicators to check for unusual levels of activity. This requires the effluent to be further reviewed to ensure it will be within permitted limits and that as an operator it is complying with its requirements to use BAT to minimise the volume and activity of aqueous discharges.

The Samples from the Treated Effluent Tank (TET) demonstrated higher levels of Caesium 137 (Cs-137) than normal, associated with suspended solids. The activity level was not abnormal but the associated suspended solids were. The operator was satisfied that whilst the sample result required further review and analysis of the effluent, that no further treatment was required before moving the effluent to the Final Monitoring and Delay Tank (FMDT) ready for discharge to sea. The operator was satisfied that Cs-137 levels were within permitted limits and expected activity for the discharge. A BAT justification to discharge was produced. A review of Cs-137 results for aqueous emissions show that Decembers discharge was within recent trends, comparable to previous discharges and below 0.001% of the annual limit. We are satisfied that NRS followed its management system procedures and no non-compliance was identified.

Monitoring Certification Scheme (MCERTS) Events:

The Environment Agency were notified of an event that took place on the 10th December 2025. Following the discharge of aqueous effluent to sea, a discrepancy with the discharge volume was identified. There was a difference between the volume recorded by the tank level gauge and the proportional sampler (which samples the discharge as it takes place). RSR permit EPR/ZP3693SL and the associated CEAR require NRS to use a Monitoring Certification Scheme (MCERTs) certified or accredited for operator self-monitoring of the aqueous effluent discharge to sea. This is done using the proportional sampler flow gauge.

An investigation by NRS reviewed potential causes including instrumentation, procedures and the operators involved. No instrumentation failure was identified. A suitable maintenance schedule is in place, and the next discharge was monitored by an engineer. A review of the procedures did not identify any error traps or steps that would cause the variation. The operator involved was a Suitably Qualified and Experienced Person (SQEP), had completed the relevant training required and had experience of the plant and procedures. Evidence was also provided of an MCERTs

audit completed on the 3rd December 2025 which identified no non-compliances. We are satisfied that although the variation exceeded the MCERTs limit by 0.81% that NRS was able to take a suitable sample and were following its management system and procedures. No non-compliance was identified.

Events were recorded by HPA due to the failure of the HPA ABB FEV 121 Watermaster (ABB Flowmeter) on the 2nd February 2026. The ABB Flowmeter is MCERTS certified flowmeter that measures the flow of aqueous discharges to sea. It communicates with the proportional sampler to enable a proportionate sample of the discharge to be taken. Following the submission of the final information on the 7th July 2026, the Environment Agency review of the events was completed. A RASCAR was issued on the 27th July 2026 which details this investigation and outcome.

A fault was identified in the MCERTS certified flowmeter on the 2nd February 2026. The fault could not be resolved, therefore HPA didn't have a MCERTS certified flowmeter in place for two discharges to sea of active effluent (10th February 2026 and the 11th March 2026). A "like for like" replacement MCERTS was installed and tested at the end of June 2026 and shown to be compliant with MCERTS requirements.

The Environment Agency is satisfied that for the two discharges (10th February and the 11th March), the non-MCERTS flowmeter provided sufficient recording accuracy and information with the resulting data recognised for monitoring returns. The Environment Agency is also satisfied that a third discharge to sea that was undertaken to test the installation of the "like for like" ABB MCERTs flowmeter replacement on the 30th June 2026 provided sufficient recording accuracy and information for the resulting data to be recognised for monitoring returns.

From the initial period of the fault being identified, the Environment Agency is satisfied that HPA used BAT to reduce and minimise aqueous waste arisings and discharges. There is also evidence that HPA endeavoured to replace the faulty equipment as soon as practicably possible. No non-compliances were issued for these events.

Hinkley Point B

2024 Retrospective Dose Assessment:

Nuclear site operators are required to undertake an annual retrospective assessment of dose to the 'representative person' to demonstrate that their authorised radioactive discharges and on-site practices remain compliant with statutory public dose limits and follow best-practice radiation protection principles.

A 'representative person' is an individual, or reference group, whose habits and exposure pathways reflect those of the most exposed members of the local population. The most recent Radiological Habits Survey for Hinkley Point was carried out in 2024 and published by the Centre for Environment Fisheries & Aquaculture Science (CEFAS) in March 2025.

The 2024 retrospective dose assessment for HPB was received in December 2025, within the timeframe specified by the CEAR.

Condition 3.2.1 (c) requires the operator to use Best Available Techniques (BAT) when carrying out a retrospective dose assessment, this includes the use of best available data. Considering the changes in habits data reported in 2024, most notably the change in representative person, and taking into account the nine-month timeframe between the habits data being published and the retrospective dose assessment being due for submission, failure to use the best available data to undertake the retrospective dose assessment is considered to be a breach of the EPR/CB3735DT permit.

As the calculated dose to the representative person has been very low for many years, and it is unlikely to change significantly by using the recent habits data, we have scored this non-compliance as a category 4 breach as it would have negligible impact on people or the environment. Actions and recommendations have been identified to obtain compliance.

HPB waste mis-consignment:

Two Low Level Waste (LLW) consignments of drummed unsorted metal waste were dispatched from HPB to a permitted waste site in August and September 2025.

On receipt of the waste, the site identified 4 drums with labels that did not match the accompanying transfer paperwork. A further review identified 3 additional drums with the same issue.

EDF was able to confirm the contents of the drums and provided updated information demonstrating that the waste still conformed with the Waste Acceptance Criteria (WAC) and could still be received, stored and treated within the terms of the receiving sites environmental permit. EDF raised a Condition Report (CR), investigated the event and notified the EA. We have reviewed the findings from the event and considered the impact of compliance with EDF's RSR permit EPR/CB3735DT for HPB.

As part of this assessment, the EA has considered the nature and extent of the event within our EA Compliance Classification Scheme (CCS). We consider that this event has resulted in a breach of permit and have issued two category 4 scores. These are non-compliances that have no potential environmental impact. The waste was disposed of via the correct disposal route and appropriately dealt with under the receiving site's waste acceptance criteria. HPB have demonstrated that they have learnt from this event and improved procedures. At the two inspections in June 2026 we received additional assurances on the improvements made.

Environmental Monitoring Programme (EMP) Events:

Nuclear site operators are required to define and conduct an EMP in accordance with permit condition 3.2.1. Results of this programme are reported to the Environment Agency on a quarterly basis, within three months of the end of the monitoring quarter.

Milk sample not available:

The Environment Agency was notified of event AR 01446166 that took place on the 26th February 2026. During the Quarter 1 (Q1) EMP, the operator was unable to collect a milk sample at site IF23 due to the farm ending milk production. EDF still obtains milk samples from site IF24 for the purpose of the EMP, and this will also allow the station to undertake the assessment of dose to the representative person. The station has undertaken a review of dairy farms in the area of HPB and has determined that there is limited value in monitoring milk at the next nearest farm, due to the distance (4 km) and the hill at Stogursey. We accept that EDF has taken reasonable steps to obtain a milk sample, and we are satisfied with the evidence provided to demonstrate that the farm (IF23) has stopped milk production. As HPB is transferring to NRS in October 2026, there will be a review of the EMP post-transfer. No non-compliance was identified.

Positive Sulphur-35 result for herbage:

The Environment Agency was notified of event AR 01460268 that was recorded on 11th May 2026. EDF obtained a positive Sulphur-35 (S-35) result of 1.19 ±0.46 Bq/kg wet weight for the herbage sample at Site 5 during Q1. There are no mechanisms by which S-35 can be produced in significant quantities within an Advanced Gas-cooled Reactor (AGR) following End of Generation (EoG) and as S-35 has a half-life of around 87 days, it is expected to have decayed to a level that is undetectable. There have been a number of occasions where S-35 has been detected in environmental herbage samples collected near HPB since EoG. EDF has investigated whether the positives in herbage results are the result of the detection of actual S-35 activity in the sample, or false positives. The investigation identified that a possible explanation is a change in its contractor's reporting methodology. We accept that EDF has made reasonable efforts to understand why S-35 is being detected following EoG. No non-compliance was identified.

3 Sigma marine dose rate results:

The Environment Agency was notified of event AR 01460285 that took place on 21st January 2026. During preparation of Q1 EMP returns, the Environmental Safety Technician (EST) identified two 3-sigma marine dose rate results. Several required process steps were not completed by the EST, resulting in the results not being escalated appropriately. The delay in escalation meant that timely investigations into the elevated dose rate results could not be undertaken and therefore it was not

possible to determine the cause of the anomalous readings at the time of the event. As a result, the representativeness of these samples cannot be fully assured as the validity of the results cannot be confirmed.

The Environment Agency is reviewing information provided by HPB in relation to this event and will produce a RASCAR.

Discharges & Environmental monitoring

The operators at HPA and HPB are required to monitor and report liquid and gaseous discharges to the environment to us on a regular basis. Nuclear sites are also required to carry out a rigorous EMP to monitor and assess the impact of their discharges on the environment, and report to us on a regular basis. We assess these reports to check compliance with the site permits. The site discharge reports, environmental monitoring reports, and our assessments are placed on the public register.

Hinkley Point A

The effluent and gaseous discharges from HPA were below notification levels and permitted limits. The EMP data was submitted within the required timescales and the review identified no results or trends of concern.

Hinkley Point B

The liquid and gaseous discharges from HPB were below any notification levels and within permitted limits. The EMP data was submitted within the required timescales. We are currently reviewing a potential non-compliance with the Q1 (January to March 2026) EMP data and will provide an update at the SSG.

Radioactivity in Food and 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 ([i]). 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 HPA and tritium from HPB decreased in 2024 compared to 2023. The decrease in ‘total dose’ was mostly due to the revision of habits information.

Habit Survey

We commission habits surveys to find out about the food people consume and their activities near to nuclear sites. We study the data we’ve collected to assess how diet and activities could influence exposure to radioactivity. CEFAS carry out the surveys for us and publish reports on the CEFAS website.

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.

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 and B sites is Alister Wintle. Lucy Platts supports Alister Wintle with the regulation of Hinkley Point B.

Alister and Lucy are Nuclear Regulators based in the Wessex Area. They are 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.

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[i] https://www.gov.uk/monitoring-radioactivity
[ii] https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/nuclear-regulation-in-the-environment-agency

Chair's Report

Hinkley Point A and B Site Stakeholder Group

From: Cllr Leigh Redman	**Role:** Independent Chair	**For:** September 2026 meeting

Overview

Since our last meeting, the Vice chair and I have continued to represent the Hinkley Point Site Stakeholder Group locally and nationally as we support the next phase of decommissioning at Hinkley A and B.

Hinkley B transition and emergency planning

A significant focus has been the transition of Hinkley Point B following fuel free verification and the associated consultation on changes to off site emergency planning arrangements. On behalf of the SSG, I submitted a response supporting a proportionate, evidence based approach, while emphasising the need for clear communication, transparency and continued community engagement. The key message was that any changes to emergency planning must be clearly explained so that public confidence is maintained throughout the transition to decommissioning.

Hinkley A first package into storage

As I write this report I hope to have been present when Hinkley Point A achieves another significant milestone with the placement of the first packaged waste container into the Interim Storage Facility. For many years, local communities have seen decommissioning activity taking place across the site, but this represents one of the first tangible demonstrations of the long term programme moving from preparation into visible delivery. It is a landmark moment for Hinkley Point A, reflecting the commitment, expertise and dedication of the workforce, and an important step in the site's decommissioning journey. As Chair, I believe it is exactly these milestones that help bring the scale and progress of the work to life for our communities, and I look forward to recognising this achievement with colleagues and stakeholders.

NDA review and national engagement

I have also engaged with the Independent Review of the Nuclear Decommissioning Authority, submitting a detailed response reflecting Hinkley interests. The submission focused on improving transparency, strengthening local accountability, supporting effective stakeholder engagement and ensuring technical information is presented in a way that communities can understand and scrutinise.

SSG Chairs and Vice Chairs Forum

In July, the Vice Chair and I participated in the National SSG Chairs and Vice Chairs Forum, giving the opportunity to share experiences and discuss issues affecting Site Stakeholder Groups across the country. Discussions also continued with NDA colleagues regarding the future role of SSGs, communications support and opportunities to improve public awareness of our work.

NRS and NDA corporate changes

Since my last report, NDA & NRS have confirmed a number of changes to their stakeholder engagement arrangements following organisational restructuring within both organisations.

The most significant change for Site Stakeholder Groups is that Site Directors will now be the principal NRS representatives attending SSG meetings, supported by regional communications and socio economic staff. National NRS messages that were previously delivered directly to our SSG by corporate representatives will now be provided to Site Directors for onward reporting to local groups. NRS has advised that this formalises previous arrangements and is intended to ensure a more consistent approach across all SSGs.

NRS has also confirmed that corporate specialists and senior staff can still attend local SSG meetings where there is a specific requirement, specialist topic, or where an SSG requests additional support.

Alongside these changes, the NDA has introduced a programme of quarterly communications and national engagement with SSG Chairs and Vice Chairs, including forum meetings and newsletters, which we share directly with you. These arrangements are intended to provide direct access to NDA colleagues for strategic updates and discussion, with relevant information then fed back into local SSG meetings.

As Chair, I welcome the commitment to maintaining strong stakeholder engagement and the continued support available from both NDA and NRS. However, the move towards reporting through Site Directors places additional importance on ensuring that local groups continue to receive clear, timely and transparent information on both site specific and wider strategic issues. I will continue to work through the SSG Forum and directly with NDA and NRS colleagues to ensure that the scrutiny role of SSGs remains fully supported and that community voices continue to influence decision making at both local and national level.

Annual review discussion

Following my annual review discussion with the NDA Director of Communities and Stakeholder Engagement, I was pleased that the Hinkley SSG received positive feedback for the way the Group is chaired, structured and operated. NDA colleagues recognised the strength of member engagement and have agreed to work with us on developing improved communications and outreach guidance for SSG Chairs. Hinkley has also offered to help pilot some of this work as Hinkley Point B enters the next stage of its journey.

Visits and wider learning

Looking ahead my report was written in August to ensure shared with pack, members will have had the opportunity to participate in the Hinkley A and B site visit scheduled for 8 September. This will have enabled members and stakeholders to see progress first hand, including developments associated with Hinkley B becoming fuel free and the continued decommissioning work across both sites. I will also be attending the NDA Stakeholder Summit in Manchester alongside our Vice Chair following this meeting, ensuring Hinkley's experience and perspectives continue to inform national discussions on decommissioning, community engagement and public confidence.

Heritage exhibition

I am also pleased to report that I have been working with colleagues from the stations, Bridgwater Town Council and the Blake Museum to develop an exhibition charting the history of Hinkley

through the years. I hope that, in time, we may be able to secure a permanent home for the exhibition so that it remains a lasting resource for local communities and future generations.

Thanks to the Vice Chair

Finally, I would like to place on record my thanks to our Vice Chair, Graham Pearn, for his continued support. Graham has provided valuable assistance between meetings, contributed to our submissions and review work, and has been a constructive sounding board as we continue to strengthen the role and visibility of the SSG. His support and commitment are greatly appreciated.

Councillor Leigh Redman
Independent Chair
Hinkley Point A and B Site Stakeholder Group

Submission to the Independent Review of the Nuclear Decommissioning Authority (NDA)

From: Cllr Leigh Redman
Role: Independent Chair, Hinkley Point Site Stakeholder Group (SSG)
Date: June 2026

Executive Summary

This submission, made in my capacity as Independent Chair of the Hinkley Point Site Stakeholder Group (SSG), welcomes the Independent Review of the Nuclear Decommissioning Authority (NDA) and supports its aim of strengthening governance, delivery and value for money.

At a local level, there is strong recognition of the NDA's critical national role in managing the UK's civil nuclear legacy safely, securely and sustainably. The Hinkley Point site illustrates the scale and complexity of that mission: Hinkley Point A is already in decommissioning, Hinkley Point B has moved from generation through defuelling to fuel-free status, and Hinkley Point C is being constructed alongside them as part of the wider nuclear landscape in Somerset. For local communities, this means that national strategy is not an abstract matter; it is experienced through changes to emergency planning arrangements, workforce transition, waste management, environmental monitoring, transport movements, long-term land use and community confidence.

The review should therefore consider not only how the NDA operates corporately, but how its governance and decisions are understood at site level. Several consistent themes emerge from Hinkley Point SSG experience: the need for clearer accountability between the NDA and its operating companies; more timely and accessible information to support meaningful scrutiny; stronger explanation of how national strategy translates into local delivery; and better support for SSGs as independent, community-facing bodies.

There is also a clear opportunity to strengthen how value for money is demonstrated in practice. Local stakeholders understand that decommissioning is technically difficult and will span generations, but confidence depends on being able to see how funding decisions, programme changes and risk choices affect real delivery outcomes. Where there are delays, changes in scope or shifts in ownership, the reasons should be explained in plain English alongside the technical evidence.

Overall, the review should test whether communities can understand decisions, see who is accountable, and influence matters that affect them. Strengthening transparency, accountability and stakeholder influence will support both public confidence and the successful delivery of the NDA's long-term mission.

1. Introduction

I welcome the opportunity to contribute to the Independent Review of the Nuclear Decommissioning Authority (NDA).

As Independent Chair of the Hinkley Point Site Stakeholder Group, I chair a forum intended to act as a two-way conduit between the NDA, site operators, regulators, local authorities, elected representatives and the surrounding community. The SSG receives reports from the site operators, the NDA, the Environment Agency and the Office for Nuclear Regulation, and provides a space for challenge, explanation and public accountability.

Hinkley Point is a particularly useful case study for the review because it brings together several phases of the nuclear lifecycle in one locality. Hinkley Point A is a legacy site under decommissioning; Hinkley Point B has ceased generation, achieved fuel-free verification and is moving toward transfer into NDA/NRS responsibility; and Hinkley Point C is under construction nearby, shaping local infrastructure, employment and public perceptions of nuclear activity. Local residents do not experience these sites as entirely separate institutions. They experience Hinkley Point as a single nuclear presence on the Somerset coast, even where legal responsibilities, ownership and risk profiles differ.

This submission reflects my experience as Chair, the issues raised through SSG discussions, and the practical questions that arise when national strategy, corporate governance and local community confidence meet at site level.

2. Overall Position

From a local stakeholder perspective, there remains strong recognition that the NDA delivers a critical national mission. The safe stewardship of legacy nuclear sites, the management of radioactive waste, and the long-term protection of people and the environment are matters of national importance.

There is also evidence of committed leadership, improving engagement and a clear focus on safety. At Hinkley Point A, for example, local reports have highlighted progress in waste retrievals, low level waste shipments and safety culture work. At Hinkley Point B, the achievement of fuel-free status marks a major milestone in the transition from generation to decommissioning. These are significant achievements and should be recognised.

However, confidence is not sustained by milestones alone. Local communities also need to understand what those milestones mean, what risks remain, what decisions are still to be made, and who is responsible for them. The SSG has repeatedly had to ask questions about practical implications: how emergency arrangements change when risk reduces; how workforce confidence and capability are being managed during transition; what long-term land use might look like; and how lessons from one part of the group are applied elsewhere.

The overall position of this submission is therefore supportive but constructively challenging. The NDA's mission is essential and there is much to value, but the review should focus on whether the organisation's structures are sufficiently clear, transparent and responsive at the point where they are experienced by local communities.

3. Governance and Accountability

At a local level, clarity in governance remains variable. The relationship between the NDA, Nuclear Restoration Services, EDF Energy during transition, regulators and local authorities is not always easy for communities to understand. This is particularly true at Hinkley Point, where different sites sit side by side but operate under different ownership, regulatory and delivery arrangements.

The transition of Hinkley Point B is a clear example. The site ceased generation in 2022, achieved fuel-free verification in 2026, and is moving toward decommissioning and transfer into the NDA group. From a community perspective, this raises practical questions: who is accountable for explaining the change in risk profile; who leads public communications; who owns future decommissioning decisions; and where should local challenge be directed if concerns arise? These questions are not technical detail; they are central to public confidence.

Similarly, when issues arise at Hinkley Point A, such as the need to improve document control following an Environmental Monitoring Programme lapse, stakeholders need to understand whether this is being treated as a local corrective action or as learning that should be applied across the wider NDA group. The ability to see how challenge leads to change is a key part of accountability.

The review should therefore consider whether accountability is sufficiently visible to local stakeholders. It should be possible for an SSG member or resident to understand the difference between the NDA's strategic role, the operating company's delivery role, the regulator's assurance role and the local authority's statutory role. Where those responsibilities overlap, the NDA should ensure that explanations are clear and consistent.

Recommended improvements include: clearer public-facing explanations of NDA and operating company responsibilities; explicit reporting back to SSGs on how stakeholder challenge has influenced decisions; and stronger visibility of how local learning is captured and shared across the NDA group.

4. Transparency and Information for Scrutiny

Effective scrutiny depends on the quality, timing and accessibility of information. The Hinkley Point SSG receives substantial technical material, and the professionalism of site, NDA and regulatory contributors is recognised. However, information is not always presented in a way that allows members to identify the key risks, understand what has changed, or explain issues confidently to the public.

For example, SSG discussions have had to probe the practical implications of fuel-free verification at Hinkley Point B, the proposed reduction in emergency planning requirements, changes to public information arrangements, and the long-term move into decommissioning. These are technically detailed matters, but they also affect community reassurance. Residents want to know what is changing, why it is changing, what safeguards remain, and how they will be informed if something goes wrong.

At Hinkley Point A, technical reporting has included progress on waste retrievals, low level waste movements, asset care and environmental compliance. Such information is valuable, but scrutiny is

strengthened when reports identify what is on track, what is off track, what the key risks are, and what decisions may be needed before the next meeting. Without that structure, stakeholders may receive information but not always the insight needed to challenge effectively.

The review should encourage a stronger standard for stakeholder reporting across NDA sites. This should not mean reducing technical rigour; rather, it should mean presenting technical information in a way that is useful for public accountability. Plain English summaries, risk dashboards, clear action logs and forward-look sections would help SSGs move from receiving reports to testing delivery.

Recommended improvements include: earlier sharing of emerging risks where appropriate; clearer separation between routine updates and matters requiring stakeholder attention; consistent use of plain English explanations alongside technical detail; and a requirement for reports to explain changes since the previous meeting, future decision points and the practical implications for the local community.

5. Value for Money and Delivery Confidence

Stakeholders recognise the complexity and longevity of the NDA mission. Decommissioning is not a short-term project and value for money cannot be judged simply by whether costs are low. It must be judged by whether public money is being used to reduce risk, maintain safety, protect the environment, preserve capability and avoid passing unnecessary burdens to future generations.

From a local perspective, value for money is most meaningful when it is connected to delivery confidence. If a programme milestone changes, if equipment reliability affects throughput, if workforce shortages create pressure, or if long-term waste assumptions shift, stakeholders need to understand the impact. At Hinkley Point A, questions have arisen around waste package timing, retrievals, equipment reliability and the critical path for decommissioning activity. These are not simply project management issues; they affect confidence that risk reduction is progressing at the pace and quality expected.

At Hinkley Point B, value for money is also linked to the transition from an EDF-operated defuelled site to an NDA/NRS-operated decommissioning site. Local stakeholders will want assurance that changes designed to reduce costs or simplify arrangements do not weaken transparency, workforce resilience or public confidence. Where emergency planning arrangements are reduced because the risk profile has changed, it is important that the explanation is clear, evidence-based and accompanied by reassurance about the arrangements that remain.

The review should consider whether the NDA explains value for money in terms that local stakeholders can test. This should include not only headline cost control, but the relationship between spending, risk reduction, delivery milestones, long-term liabilities and community confidence.

Recommended improvements include: clearer explanation of trade-offs when funding or programme decisions are made; better reporting of how delivery risks are being managed; stronger links between value for money and long-term stewardship; and a more consistent approach to explaining why decisions represent best value for the taxpayer and the affected community.

6. Strategic Clarity and Site-Level Delivery

The NDA's national strategy is generally strong in setting out the scale of the mission, the importance of safe stewardship and the need for proportional, waste-informed decommissioning. However, national strategy can feel distant unless it is clearly translated into site-level consequences.

At Hinkley Point, this matters because the local community is living with multiple nuclear timelines at once. Hinkley Point A is moving through decommissioning; Hinkley Point B is moving from generation and defuelling into decommissioning; and Hinkley Point C is under construction nearby. Local residents, businesses and elected representatives therefore need a coherent explanation of how these activities fit together, even where they sit under different organisations.

One example is long-term land use. SSG members have asked about the future direction for the Hinkley Point A and B sites. Even where final decisions are many years away, communities benefit from knowing what principles will guide those decisions, what constraints exist, and when meaningful discussion can take place. A lack of visible direction can create uncertainty, especially in an area where Hinkley is central to the local economy, transport network, skills base and identity.

Another example is long-term waste and stewardship. If care and maintenance periods extend over many decades, current decisions on packaging, records, site layout and asset management will affect future generations. The review should test whether the NDA's strategy sufficiently explains how today's decisions avoid constraining tomorrow's choices.

Recommended improvements include: clearer site-level summaries of how national strategy applies locally; forward-look maps showing key decision points over the next five to ten years; more explicit discussion of long-term land use principles; and stronger engagement with local authorities and communities where decommissioning decisions intersect with place-shaping, skills and economic planning.

7. Stakeholder Engagement and Role of SSGs

Engagement has improved and the NDA's recognition of SSGs as important local forums is welcome. The SSG model provides a valuable route for public scrutiny, community questions and local reassurance. However, the role, independence and practical support for SSGs would benefit from further clarification.

The expectations placed on SSGs have changed. Communities now expect faster, clearer and more accessible communication than was typical when many SSG arrangements were first established. Chairs and members are increasingly expected to help explain complex issues through public meetings, press statements, social media, local authority networks and direct engagement with residents. Yet there remains limited clarity on how far SSGs can or should communicate independently, what approval processes apply, how branding should be handled, and what support is available for outreach.

Hinkley Point provides a practical example. Issues such as fuel-free verification at Hinkley Point B, changes to emergency planning zones, withdrawal or amendment of legacy public information

arrangements, and the future transfer to NDA/NRS responsibility are all matters where residents may reasonably expect clear local communication. If the SSG is intended to act as a two-way conduit, it needs the confidence, guidance and support to communicate effectively without compromising independence or accuracy.

The review should therefore consider whether SSGs are properly equipped for modern stakeholder engagement. Independence should not mean isolation, and support from the NDA should not be perceived as control. The balance can be achieved through clear principles, transparent protocols and practical assistance.

Recommended improvements include: a clearer national framework for SSG communications; guidance on press statements, public updates and social media; defined support from NDA or NRS communications teams while preserving SSG independence; modest resources for outreach where SSGs are expected to broaden engagement; and mechanisms to ensure younger people, parish councils, local businesses, community groups and seldom-heard residents can feed into discussions.

8. Capability and Long-Term Delivery Risks

Local discussions highlight risks around capability, workforce transition, knowledge retention and long-term stewardship. These are not peripheral issues; they sit at the heart of successful decommissioning.

At Hinkley Point B, the transition from an operational generating station to a defuelled and then decommissioning site creates workforce uncertainty. Some staff may transfer to new arrangements, some may retire, and others may move to Hinkley Point C or elsewhere in the sector. The technical risk may reduce as fuel is removed, but organisational risk can increase if knowledge, confidence or capability are not carefully managed.

At Hinkley Point A, the delivery programme depends on specialist skills in areas such as waste retrievals, radiation protection, asset care, maintenance and environmental assurance. Local reporting has identified progress, but also the importance of recruitment, training, equipment reliability and leadership visibility. These are precisely the areas where small weaknesses can become larger delivery risks if not addressed early.

The review should consider how the NDA assures itself that long-term capability is being protected across the group. This includes not only technical skills, but also the ability to communicate with communities, manage records over decades, learn from incidents, and maintain institutional memory as staff and contractors change.

Recommended improvements include: more transparent reporting of workforce and skills risks; clearer early warning indicators for capability pressures; stronger assurance that lessons are shared across sites; and greater visibility for SSGs of how long-term stewardship risks are identified, owned and mitigated.

9. Concluding Remarks

The review should consider how NDA governance and strategy are experienced at site level, not only how they appear in corporate structures. Hinkley Point demonstrates the importance of this perspective. For communities, the NDA mission is experienced through the practical realities of decommissioning, emergency planning changes, environmental assurance, workforce transition, transport and waste movements, long-term land use and public confidence.

The key test should be whether stakeholders can understand decisions, identify who is accountable, raise challenge early enough to matter, and see how that challenge influences outcomes. If the answer is not consistently yes, then governance and engagement arrangements require strengthening.

In summary, I would ask the review to consider the following priorities: clearer accountability between the NDA and operating companies; stronger plain English reporting to support scrutiny; better explanation of value for money at site level; clearer translation of national strategy into local delivery plans; more support and guidance for SSG communications and outreach; and improved transparency on workforce, capability and long-term stewardship risks.

Addressing these points would not only strengthen local confidence at Hinkley Point, but would also support the wider credibility and effectiveness of the NDA's national mission.

10. Closing

I would be happy to engage further with the review team and provide any additional local perspective from the Hinkley Point SSG if that would be helpful.

Cllr Leigh Redman
Independent Chair
Hinkley Point Site Stakeholder Group