

Office for Nuclear Regulation (ONR)

Site Report for Hinkley Point C

Report for period 1 April – 30 June 2022

Foreword

This report is issued as part of ONR's commitment to make information about inspection and regulatory activities relating to the above site available to the public. Reports are distributed to members for the Hinkley Point C community forum and are also available on the ONR website (<http://www.onr.org.uk/lhc/>).

Site inspectors from ONR usually attend Hinkley Point C community forum meeting where these reports are presented and will respond to any questions raised there. Any person wishing to inquire about matters covered by this report should contact ONR.

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1 Inspections

Dates of inspection

ONR inspectors including ONR-warranted Health and Safety Executive Construction Division inspectors made inspections on the following dates during the report period at the Hinkley Point C (HPC) construction site:

- 5 April 2022
- 26-28 April 2022
- 18-20 May 2022
- 7-8 June 2022
- 15-16 June 2022
- 22-24 June 2022
- 27-28 June 2022

2 Routine Matters

Inspections

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

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

The inspections entail monitoring 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 the HPC site covered the following:

- fire safety
- quality management
- design compliance
- fabrication and inspection
- conventional (non-nuclear) health and safety
- foreign material exclusion
- records management.

ONR also conducted an unannounced inspection focused on conventional health and safety.

During the reporting period, ONR judged the arrangements made and implemented by the site in response to safety requirements to be generally satisfactory in the areas inspected. Where improvements have been identified, the licensee has made a commitment to address those issues, and ONR inspectors will closely monitor progress during future site inspections. Where necessary, ONR will take formal regulatory enforcement action to ensure that appropriate remedial measures are implemented to reasonably practicable timescales. Members of the public, who would like further information on ONR's inspection activities during the reporting period, can view site Intervention Records at www.onr.org.uk/intervention-records. Should you have any queries regarding our inspection activities, please email contact@onr.gov.uk.

ONR's site interventions include increasing focus on NNB GenCo (HPC) Ltd's ability to adequately control construction and installation at the HPC site.

Other work

ONR continues its engagement with the project via regular site visits and meetings at NNB GenCo (HPC) Ltd's offices and supplier locations across the following themes:

- design and safety case;
- organisational capability (including supply chain and quality);
- pre-operations;
- conventional health and safety and fire safety; and
- security.

These inspections provide ONR with valuable intelligence on the progress NNB GenCo (HPC) Ltd is making developing its competence and capability to manage the design, procurement, and construction of HPC.

3 Non-Routine Matters

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

Matters and events of particular note during the period were:

- ONR has completed an investigation to establish the facts surrounding radiograph anomalies as reported in previous reports. Enforcement action (enforcement letters) was taken to ensure that improvements are implemented to prevent such an event in the future.

4 Regulatory Activity

ONR may issue formal documents to ensure compliance with regulatory requirements. Under nuclear site licence conditions, ONR issues regulatory documents, which either permit an activity or require some form of action to be taken; these are usually collectively termed 'Licence Instruments' (LIs) but can take other forms. In addition, inspectors may take a range of enforcement actions, including issuing an enforcement notice and other lower-level regulatory communications such as enforcement letters.

The following LIs, enforcement notices and enforcement letters have been issued during the period:

- Under Licence Condition 19, construction or installation of new plant, ONR may specify that a licensee does not proceed past a specified hold point without its agreement. ONR issued a LI at the end of May 2022 for NNB GenCo (HPC) Ltd to deliver the first nuclear steam supply system (NSSS) component, a reactor coolant pump casing, onto the HPC site. This also considered arrangements that will be relevant for other significant NSSS components, for example delivery of the reactor pressure vessel.
- Under Licence Condition 20, modification to design of plant under construction, ONR issued a LI agreeing to a proposed change in the type of insulation planned for use, moving away from fibrous insulation towards reflective metal insulation.
- As noted in the Q1 report, improvement notices were served after a worker fell from scaffolding. The notices were served on contractors Bouygues Travaux Publics SAS and Laing O'Rourke Construction Limited, the joint venture partners in BYLOR Joint Venture (JV). The contractors have complied with the improvement notices by the deadline set by ONR.
- Concluding from the investigation into radiograph anomalies, ONR issued three enforcement letters during the period, requiring improvements in quality management arrangements, to NNB GenCo (HPC) Ltd, Bylor JV and EDEL JV.

Reports detailing the above regulatory decisions can be found on the ONR website.

5 News from ONR

For the latest news and information from the Office for Nuclear Regulation, please read and subscribe to our regular email newsletter 'ONR News' at www.onr.org.uk/onrnews

6 Contacts

Office for Nuclear Regulation
Redgrave Court
Merton Road
Bootle
Merseyside
L20 7HS

website: www.onr.org.uk
email: Contact@onr.gov.uk

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