

Dungeness B monthly report December 2014

Introduction

We are keen to hear the views of our local communities. We recognise that good communication is a two-way process and we welcome your feedback and comments.

Safety

- There are no new safety issues to report.

Environmental Safety

- There were no environmental events at Dungeness B during December 2014.
- In August we reported that elevated levels of tritium had been identified in groundwater towards the centre of the site and we felt it important to provide an update. The investigation into this event has now been completed and following a repair to pipework tritium levels in groundwater are now returning to the expected background levels. Both the Office for Nuclear Regulation (ONR) and the Environment Agency received regular updates on the actions taken by station during this investigation and have also received a copy of the investigation report.

As noted in the August report tritium is a naturally occurring form of hydrogen that is produced in the atmosphere and is found in small concentrations in groundwater. It is also a by-product of electricity generation at nuclear power stations. The elevated concentration of tritium identified at Dungeness B were completely confined to the site and at no point posed a risk to the public, our employees or the external environment.

- 86% of all non-radiological waste produced at Dungeness B in 2014 was recycled. A further 12% was recovered or incinerated and only 1% was consigned to landfill. A continual focus on waste management improvements will ensure that we build on this success in 2015.
- In November it was noted that a grey seal had been spotted in the station forebay. The forebay is a large, outdoor, open air chamber which draws in water from the English Channel used for cooling. Under the guidance of an external specialist marine mammal rescue organisation the seal was safely recovered in December and returned to the wild on 19 December 2014.

Station Output

- **Reactor 21** was taken offline at 07.55 on 8 December due to a fault on a gas circulator. It has now been returned to service [08 Jan].
- **Reactor 22** operated at 100% thermal power throughout December.



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Dungeness B News

Dungeness B hosts LabLive event at the Marsh Academy

Over 400 students from year seven through to nine were treated to a spectacular science event at The Marsh Academy in New Romney on Tuesday 9 December, courtesy of The Times Cheltenham Science Festival in partnership with EDF Energy.

The free 'LabLive' shows have amazed almost 8,500 Key Stage 3 pupils from around the UK with two hours of entertaining, inspiring and mind-expanding science since it started in 2011.

The event in New Romney delivered a feast of explosions, experiments and hands-on fun, courtesy of two stellar scientists; Simon Watt and Suze Kundu. Simon Watt is a biologist and presenter of the award winning documentary series Inside Nature's Giants and Suze Kundu is a Teaching Fellow in the Department of Materials at Imperial College London. Both aimed to amaze and inspire the students in Science Technology Engineering and Maths subjects.



Christmas comes early for New Romney Scouts

New Romney Scout Group spruced up their hut just in time for Christmas thanks to some generous support from Dungeness B.

The scouts wrote to their local power station in the hope of a contribution towards paint costs, but in true festive spirit the station went much further providing new tents as well as paint and workers to do the job.

Dungeness B, operated by EDF Energy, bought the group two new six-man tents which will be used for camping trips in the New Year. Workplace Solutions, who provide contract work for the site, sent a member of staff to paint the hall and provided paint for the rest of the scout hut.



Veronica Bailey, Cub Scout leader, said: "We're overwhelmed by the station's generosity. We thought it would be nice if they were able to help but weren't expecting them to provide us with people to do the job. It's like Santa's elves have been!"

Rock armour arrives at Dungeness B

A delivery of rock armour, big boulders used for coastal protection, has arrived at Dungeness B.

The boulders are being placed between the power station and the existing shingle bank in front of the station, to provide additional support to the shingle bank in the event of a severe storm.

The rock armour installation completes the investment in flood defences at Dungeness B power station. The works began in 2013 and are to upgrade the existing flooding defences to cover more extreme weather events which are very unlikely to happen but need to be planned for nonetheless.

Martin Pearson, Dungeness B station director, said: "We are continually investing in Dungeness B in order to continue to generate low carbon power for Kent. The site has many existing layers of protection against flooding and has always been protected against storms. The rock armour and other enhancements to our existing defences will help protect us against even more severe weather events that are statistically very unlikely to occur. We've invested over £5 million including £2 million on a concrete flood defence wall which spans the perimeter of the station."



Company News

Blue+Price Promise - new cheaper tariff

EDF Energy has launched **Blue+Price Promise May 2016**, a new cheaper energy tariff that provides fixed prices for 17 months, until May 31 2016.

With this tariff, customers won't have to worry about searching for better deals. They will be alerted by email if they could save more than £1 a week at typical use with any other tariff, either from EDF Energy or its competitors, giving peace of mind for people concerned about changing energy prices.

As with all EDF Energy tariffs, customers are also free to leave with no exit fees at any time.

Energy efficiency targets met

EDF Energy has met all of its energy efficiency targets for the Energy Company Obligation (ECO), ahead of the scheme's March 2015 deadline.

The company has supported the installation of 170,000 energy saving measures in 144,000 properties across England, Scotland and Wales. These measures, which include loft insulation, cavity wall insulation and boiler replacements, will help householders save millions from their energy bills, as well as cutting more than 2.4 million tonnes of carbon emissions.

EDF Energy has worked with local authorities, charities and installers to identify the most vulnerable communities in the UK and install appropriate energy saving measures.

Hinkley Point visitor centre numbers hit 20,000

It was a double cause for celebration at the Hinkley Point visitor centre in December as it welcomed its 20,000th visitor on the second anniversary of the doors being open to the public.

The interactive centre at Bridgwater's Angel Place shopping centre has proved extremely popular with local people of all ages since it opened, and has developed into a focal point for EDF Energy's community engagement in Somerset.

As well as catering for those interested in nuclear power and visiting Hinkley Point B, the visitor centre brings together different strands of EDF Energy's business.

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Glossary of terms

Term	Definition
Nuclear reportable event or incident	Nuclear reportable events are events reported to the Office for Nuclear Regulation (ONR) in compliance with EDF Energy's nuclear site licences.
Lost time injury	Lost Time Injury is an absence of one day or more resulting from an injury incurred during an accident - generally in UK industry a less stringent three day or more criteria is used.
Environmental event or incident	Environmental events arise from wastes or discharges above permitted levels or breaches of permitted conditions.
Outage	A period during which a reactor is shut down. The periodic shutdown of a reactor including for maintenance, inspection and testing or, in some cases for refuelling is known as a planned outage. In the UK, some planned outages are known as statutory outages and are required by the conditions attached to the nuclear site licence needed to operate the station. Unscheduled shutdown of a reactor for a period is known as an unplanned outage.
INES rating	International Event Scale - Events are classified at seven levels: Levels 1–3 are "incidents" and Levels 4–7 "accidents". These levels consider three areas of impact: people and the environment, radiological barriers and control, and defence in depth. The scale is designed so that the severity of an event is about ten times greater for each increase in level on the scale. Events without safety significance are called "deviations" and are classified Below Scale/Level 0. Level 1 is an anomaly.