



## EDF Hartlepool Power Station Local Community Liaison Committee Minutes Training Centre 2 Hartlepool Power Station, June 6

## Attendees

Mark Lees - EDF, Station Director Hartlepool Power Station (Meeting chair)  
Kirsty Hopkinson - EDF HR Manager Hartlepool Power Station  
Sharne Lane - Internal Communications Hartlepool Power Station  
Andrew Wilson - Quality Management Group Head Hartlepool Power Station  
Louise Taylor - Visitor Centre Co-ordinator Hartlepool Power Station  
Matthew Pardo - EDF External Communications Manager  
Steven Tomlinson - Tech and Safety Manager Hartlepool Power Station  
Jamie Moss - Environmental Safety Hartlepool Power Station  
Sarah Clarke - Industrial Safety Support Hartlepool Power Station  
Emma Hennel-Whittington - PA to Station Director Hartlepool Power Station  
Ann Oxley - Teesmouth Field Centre  
Martin Green - Local Resident  
Heather Moorhouse - North Yorkshire County Council  
Scott Redpath - Office for Nuclear Regulation  
Daniel Knight - Freedom  
Robin Beach - Hartlepool Borough Council, Emergency Planning Lead  
Brian Iddon - Environment Agency  
Gil Parker - Alice House Hospice  
Isabelle Attwood - Redcar and Cleveland Borough Council  
Jon Davenport - Environment Agency  
Tracy Scott - North East Ambulance Service

## Introduction

1. Mark Lees discussed the action from the last meeting on the power station using Fairtrade products. Martin Green confirmed this action was now closed with confirmation that Hartlepool Power Station sells a number of Fairtrade products in the canteen.

## Alice House

2. Gil Parker of Alice House Hospice discussed various projects recently undertaken by the hospice's supporters. This included a challenge to schools to use £20 as best they can to raise cash for the hospice. EDF matched the money raised with the challenge.
3. He also mentioned Lee Dodgson from Hartlepool Power Station's Operations team who ran the London Marathon and raised £4130 in funds, which was also matched by EDF. Also mentioned was Christine Neil from Equans, who has raised £1179 so far and is continuing to raise money.

## Company Update

4. Mark Lees mentioned that in March the company extended the life of Hartlepool Power Station for a further two years, meaning the end of generation is now March 2026.

5. He told how the station, and the Office for Nuclear Regulation (ONR), monitor and sample the condition of the reactor core's graphite blocks, and core, to inform decisions around ongoing operations.
6. He discussed how the announcement is great news for the station and for the UK, as the power station is a major contributor to the UK's energy supply.
7. Mark discussed how the decision impacts the upcoming 2023 reactor outage. This maintenance period will be much busier than previously anticipated because the extension means certain equipment at station will need to be maintained for a longer than planned for period. As such, this outage will be a bigger challenge than had been expected before the life extension announcement in March.
8. Scott Redpath of the ONR mentioned how the regulator ensures it independently reviews the safety of the station's operations and that it will continue to liaise with EDF to ensure the safety of all future operations.
9. Mark then spoke of external interest in the site for the potential for new build nuclear. He described how Hartlepool is one of the most sought after sites in the country and that there had been significant interest, but that the Government will need to design a strategy for future nuclear development before projects could progress significantly further.
10. Steve Tomlinson then discussed operations on the power station over the last six months.
11. He mentioned that there had been a knee injury to a member of EDF staff during some offsite training. He also mentioned several other incidents, which were all minor and avoidable.
12. He talked about a minor fire in January on the gas turbine plant where residual oil in a heater had overheated. This led to a small fire which was extinguished within minutes. He described how the station teams had acted professionally to deal with the incident. The local fire service also attended site, as per existing arrangements.
13. He then discussed an event in December 2022 in which the reactor had been operated outside of technical specification limits. Because of this, the ONR has classified the event as a Level 1 event on the International Nuclear Event Scale.
14. Scott Redpath commented saying that this could be found in the [ONR Q1 report](#). He said the event was no risk to the public and should have been picked up by the Operations team. He said that the event had earned Level 1 status because of additional factors.

15. Jamie Moss discussed environmental safety and said it has been ten years since the last Tier One event.
16. He spoke of the station's engagement with the Environment Agency (EA). He said there had been three inspections since the last LCLC, which were; radiological waste, lifetime extension and defueling, and on water abstraction.
17. Jamie described a release of Taprogge balls from the power station in February 2023. Teams have been going out twice a day and on weekends to collect the balls. Tees Valley Wildlife Trust has also been collecting, and the charity informs Jamie where and when balls are discovered so that future searches can be better targeted.
18. Since February there has been an investigation into the events at the station and steps put in place to reduce the risk of further discharges.
19. Andrew Wilson discussed emergency preparedness and how there has been a push on equipment and facilities, with updated fire-fighting foam now onsite.
20. He mentioned how there had been several exercises so far this year, and training carried out to fill emergency roles, with a new emergency controller and assistant emergency controller now in place.
21. Kirsty Hopkinson discussed how the station has recruited more than 60 new EDF employees, and 45 contract employees, since the last meeting.
22. She mentioned nine new apprentices onsite, following a recruitment campaign that had over 200 applicants.
23. She added that the station will keep recruiting during the defueling period.

### **Regulatory Issues (ONR and EA)**

24. Brian Iddon (EA) said that Taprogge has been the main issue for the agency to consider over the last year.
25. He mentioned that following the investigation into Taprogge, and the controls and measures that have been put in place, matters had improved and they continue to monitor the situation.
26. Jon Davenport told the meeting that the EA will be looking at the station's outage waste management with the ONR and looking at the environmental monitoring programme to see what the station's exact impact on the environment is.
27. Finally, he discussed the possibility of Port Clarence Landfill taking radioactive waste, with over 2500 responses to this, they are expecting a response in July on a decision if this is accepted or rejected.
28. Martin Green requested a link to EA report, **ACTION** Matthew Pardo will make link available with LCLC minutes along with a link to ONR report.
29. Scott Redpath provided an overview, he also stated that all inspections can be found on the ONR website under the resources section.

30. He mentioned the station's performance improvement department capability and how this had been a regulatory issue but this has now been closed.
31. He discussed a Pressure Systems Safety Regulations inspection that had taken place in May, this had previously been a red rating issue, this is now Green rating following a significant volume of work from the station, ONR will continue to monitor.
32. He finished saying that the ONR's focus will be on the 2023 outage and that the agency will take a strong interest to ensure the unit comes back on in a safe state.

### **Teesmouth Field Centre**

33. Ann Oxley explained that since January there has been 39 bookings to the Teesmouth Field Centre, and a total of 1293 visitors.
34. She mentioned that the centre is fully booked for the half term, with issues with staffing and space they are unable to book up any more places.
35. She discussed how the station has provided two more years of sponsorship, including funding and accommodation.
36. She finished to say that 2025 will mark 55 years of the Teesmouth Field Centre being onsite. Mark Lees asked us all to think of ways to support this milestone when it comes to it.

### **AOB**

37. Tracey Scott from North East Ambulance Service discussed how there were new managers in the area, and how it would be good to arrange a site visit for them to see how the station works and speak to the Emergency Planning Engineer and Occupational Health. It was discussed that this could be arranged for Police, Fire and Ambulance representatives.  
**Action Matthew Pardo and Tania Percival to research.**
38. Louise Taylor mentioned a visit booked in for September 7, if anyone would like to join to let her know prior to the visit. Email [louise.taylor@edf-energy.com](mailto:louise.taylor@edf-energy.com) for more information.
39. Mark Lees thanked participants for attending and closed the meeting.