Hunterston B

Nuclear Power Station

Emergency Information for the Public

North Ayrshire Council
Comhairle Siorrachd Àir a Tuath

North Ayrshire Council
Cunninghame House
Irvine
KA12 8EE

Published by:
North Ayrshire Council in partnership with EDF Nuclear Generation Ltd in accordance with the Radiation (Emergency Preparedness & Public Information) Regulations (REPPIR) 2019.

MIX
Paper from responsible sources
FSC® C022174
FSC
www.fsc.org

OFF-SITE NUCLEAR EMERGENCY INFORMATION

You have received this information because your residential/business premises lie within the Detailed Emergency Planning Zone (DEPZ) of Hunterston B Nuclear Power Station (Hunterston B). Please refer to the location map in section 8 of this information.

This information describes how a radiation emergency at Hunterston B might affect you as a local resident, visitor or worker and has been issued by North Ayrshire Council in accordance with the Radiation (Emergency Preparedness & Public Information) Regulations (REPPIR) 2019.

Please retain this information for future reference.

Nuclear power stations are designed, operated and regulated to ensure that any accidents are highly unlikely. However, it is prudent to have arrangements to deal with such a situation should it occur.

This information advises you of these arrangements and explains what you may need to do in the event of an emergency to protect yourself from exposure to radiation and radioactive material.

CONTENTS

1. Facts about ionising radiation and its effects on persons and the environment
2. Types of radiation emergency that could occur and their consequences
3. Protective actions to alert, protect and assist the public in the event of a radiation emergency
4. Information on protective actions to be taken by the public in the event of a radiation emergency
5. Arrangements for specific groups of people
6. After an event
7. The authorities responsible for implementing protective actions
8. The Detailed Emergency Planning Zone (DEPZ)
9. The Outline Planning Zone (OPZ)
10. Security information

ATTACHMENTS

- EDF Public Emergency Telephone Information System Letter
- EDF Public Emergency Telephone Information System Sign Up Card
- Change of Occupancy Card
- Evacuation Registration Card
- Nuclear emergencies: information for the public
- Basic concepts of radiation

Further information is available at the following address:

www.gov.uk/government/publications/nuclear-emergencies-information-for-the-public

STABLE IODINE TABLETS

Hunterston B is no longer an operational power station and has entered into the defueling phase. The type of radiation that would make these tablets necessary no longer exists. It is no longer appropriate to issue these so they have been withdrawn from use.

Residents and businesses within the DEPZ were previously issued with Stable Iodine Tablets and would have been instructed to take these in the event of a radiation emergency at Hunterston B.

If you still have any packets of Stable Iodine Tablets please take these to your local pharmacy who will dispose of these for you free of charge.

New occupants of these premises can apply for additional copies of this information from;

in the first instance,

North Ayrshire Council
Cunninghame House
Friarscroft
Irvine
KA12 8EE
01294 310000

NHS Ayrshire & Arran
Health Protection Team
Afton House
Ailsa Hospital
Dalmellington Road
Ayr
KA6 6AB
01292 885882

or;

EDF Emergency Planning Group
Javelin House
Building 1420 Charlton Court
Gloucester Business Park
Gloucester
GL3 4AE

Contact information

North Ayrshire Council	01294 310000 www.north-ayrshire.gov.uk/home.aspx
EDF Hunterston B Nuclear Power Station	01294 826000

1 FACTS ABOUT IONISING RADIATION AND ITS EFFECTS ON PERSONS AND THE ENVIRONMENT

The basic facts about ionising radiation and its effects on persons and the environment are detailed in the UK Health Security Agency leaflet **Basic Concepts of Radiation** which is included with this information.

This leaflet is also available on-line at **www.gov.uk/government/publications/nuclear-emergencies-information-for-the-public/basic-concepts-of-radiation**.

Further information on radiation, its effects and risks can be found on-line at **www.gov.uk/government/collections/radiation-detailed-information**.

2 TYPES OF RADIATION EMERGENCY THAT COULD OCCUR AND THEIR CONSEQUENCES

The likelihood of a radiation emergency occurring at Hunterston B is very low and there are a significant number of safety barriers in place to prevent the uncontrolled release of radioactive material to the environment. Hunterston B has never had a radiation emergency; however, accidents have occurred elsewhere in the past when radioactivity has been released from other sites around the world.

If a radiation emergency were to occur at Hunterston B, it would be most likely to take the form of a release of gas containing small amounts of radioactive particles.

In this instance, people could be exposed to radiation in the following ways;

- Breathing in radioactive materials.
- Direct exposure to radioactive materials that are carried in the air or are deposited on surfaces.
- By eating or drinking uncovered foods or liquids which have been exposed to radioactive materials.

During a radiation emergency of this type the weather may play a significant role in the spread of radioactive materials. In particular, the wind direction and speed on the day will determine the areas affected and where radioactive materials may be deposited.

Sections 3 and 4 give direction on the actions that can be taken to protect against the risks from exposure to radioactivity.

PERCEIVED RISK

Hunterston B is a complex industrial site with many processes that take place, which to the public may look as though an incident is occurring. This may include, but not be limited to, occasional releases of large amounts of steam and loud noises.

In addition, emergencies could take place on the site, such as fires, or industrial incidents that could generate smoke or require the attendance of large numbers of emergency services vehicles.

These would not necessarily involve a radiological hazard and therefore you should not take any protective actions unless you are advised to do so.

All protective actions carry with them a risk of harm. Therefore taking unnecessary actions, such as evacuating, when there is not a risk from radiation, is not justified.

3 PROTECTIVE ACTIONS TO ALERT, PROTECT AND ASSIST THE PUBLIC IN THE EVENT OF A RADIATION EMERGENCY

WARNING

If there is an off-site nuclear emergency, the primary means of notification will be by:

- automated telephone notification system (if you have registered your details*)
- announcements through local and social media outlets
- direct communication from members of the emergency services.

* Please refer to the attached **EDF Public Emergency Telephone Information System letter** and **Sign-Up Card**.

SHIPPING AND BOATS

HM Coastguard will distribute a hazard to navigation warning which will be announced on Marine VHF Distress Channel 16.

RADIO

- Radio Scotland (810MW/92-95 FM)
- West FM (96.7-97.3 FM)
- West Sound (1035 MW)

TV

- BBC Scotland
- STV

FACEBOOK

- EDF: edfenergy
- Maritime and Coastguard Agency
- NHS Ayrshire & Arran: www.facebook.com/nhsaaa
- North Ayrshire Council: northayrshirecouncil
- Police Scotland: policescotland
- Scottish Ambulance Service: scotambservice

X

- Ayrshire Police: @ayrshirepolice
- EDF: @edfenergy
- Maritime and Coastguard Agency: @MCA_media
- NHS Ayrshire & Arran: @NHSaaa
- North Ayrshire Council: @North_Ayrshire
- North Ayrshire Police: @ayrshirenpolice
- Police Scotland: @policescotland
- Scottish Ambulance Service: @scotambservice

SITE SIRENS AND EMERGENCY SERVICE VEHICLES

The site emergency sirens are sounded regularly for testing purposes and as part of site emergency exercises. Hearing the siren is not an indication that an incident is occurring. You should not take action on the basis of hearing the siren as it is not part of the incident notification process.

Emergency services vehicles regularly attend the site for training and exercising and for low level incidents such as staff illness. The presence of emergency services vehicles at site is not an indication that an incident is occurring. You should not take action on the basis of emergency service vehicles attending the site.

THE HUNTERSTON B OFF-SITE EMERGENCY PLAN

North Ayrshire Council is responsible for the development of the off-site emergency arrangements for Hunterston B, as required by the Radiation (Emergency Preparedness and Public Information) Regulations 2019 (REPPIR 2019).

The **Hunterston B Nuclear Power Station Off-Site Contingency Plan** sets out the detailed planning arrangements to provide prompt protection to members of the public in the area. A copy of the plan can be found at **www.north-ayrshire.gov.uk/community-safety/emergency-planning.aspx** or by searching for **Hunterston B Contingency Plan**.

4 INFORMATION ON PROTECTIVE ACTIONS TO BE TAKEN BY THE PUBLIC IN THE EVENT OF A RADIATION EMERGENCY

In the event of a radiation emergency occurring, you will be provided with advice on what action to take, via the methods identified in section 3. There are three primary protective actions that could be applied depending on the specific emergency scenario;

- Sheltering/staying indoors.
- Avoiding consumption of contaminated food/drink.
- Evacuation/leaving the area.

The initial message will be to:

GO IN

STAY IN

TUNE IN

SHELTERING/STAYING INDOORS

Staying inside with doors and windows closed is an effective method of protection from breathing in radioactive material in the air outside and from direct radiation from radioactive material in the air and on the ground.

If directed to shelter/stay indoors....

People at home/at their place of work should:

- go indoors
- bring domestic pets indoors
- leave all farm animals where they are
- close all outside doors and windows
- switch off any ventilation systems or extractor fans that are not safety critical
- tune into your local radio/TV and listen for any further instructions
- monitor official social media accounts.

People not at home/at their place of work:

- if you are indoors, remain where you are
- if you are outdoors, make your way to a nearby premises where you can remain indoors
- if you are travelling in a vehicle, ensure all windows and vents are closed and leave the DEPZ by a route that does not take you closer to the station, ensuring you observe any access restrictions in place. Alternatively, seek shelter in a permanent building.

People outside the affected area:

If you live/work within the Detailed Emergency Planning Zone but are not in the area when an incident occurs you **should not return** to the area until advised that it is safe to do so if at all possible.

AVOIDING CONSUMPTION OF CONTAMINATED FOOD/DRINK

In the event of a radiation emergency at Hunterston B, radioactive material could be deposited on uncovered food/drink, which could then be ingested. It could also find its way into foods through crops and animals.

Food, drink and medicines

If a radiation emergency occurs it is safe to continue to use:

- food stored indoors, for example in homes or shops
- medicines stored in their normal packaging
- mains tap water, unless told otherwise.

You should wait for official guidance before:

- using private water supplies
- consuming food stored outdoors, for example on open-air markets or stalls
- harvesting fresh produce to eat, for example from a garden or allotment.

Food production

- Food Standards Scotland is responsible for providing advice on food safety in the event of a release of radioactivity.
- If a radioactive release occurred, radioactive material could contaminate food production (for example, crops in fields, allotments or animals eating contaminated grass) over a wide area.
- Food Standards Scotland's advice will protect those people who may consume this contaminated food on a regular basis and over a long period of time. The area covered by food advice is therefore likely to be larger than the area in which other protective actions are required.
- The Scottish Government Agriculture and Rural Economy Directorate for Agriculture, Food and Rural Communities is responsible for protecting animal welfare and minimising the impact of the emergency on food production, farming and fishing industries. They will also provide local support to Food Standard Scotland's response.

EVACUATION/LEAVING THE AREA

In the event of a radiation emergency at Hunterston B, it may be necessary to ask people to leave the immediate area. However this carries with it an element of risk and therefore would only be done in situations where the risk posed by the radiation hazard outweighs the risk of moving people out of the area. You should not expect to be evacuated as in most situations staying indoors would provide more than adequate protection from radiation.

In preparation for leaving the area:

- tune into the public broadcast information and listen out for instructions on leaving the area
- get together the people in your household/place of work (excluding children at school) and pets
- pack a supply of appropriate clothing
- pack any special food that anyone needs
- pack any medicines that anyone needs
- take personal documents and valuables
- pack some books and toys for children
- complete the Evacuation Registration Card.

If you are asked to leave the area:

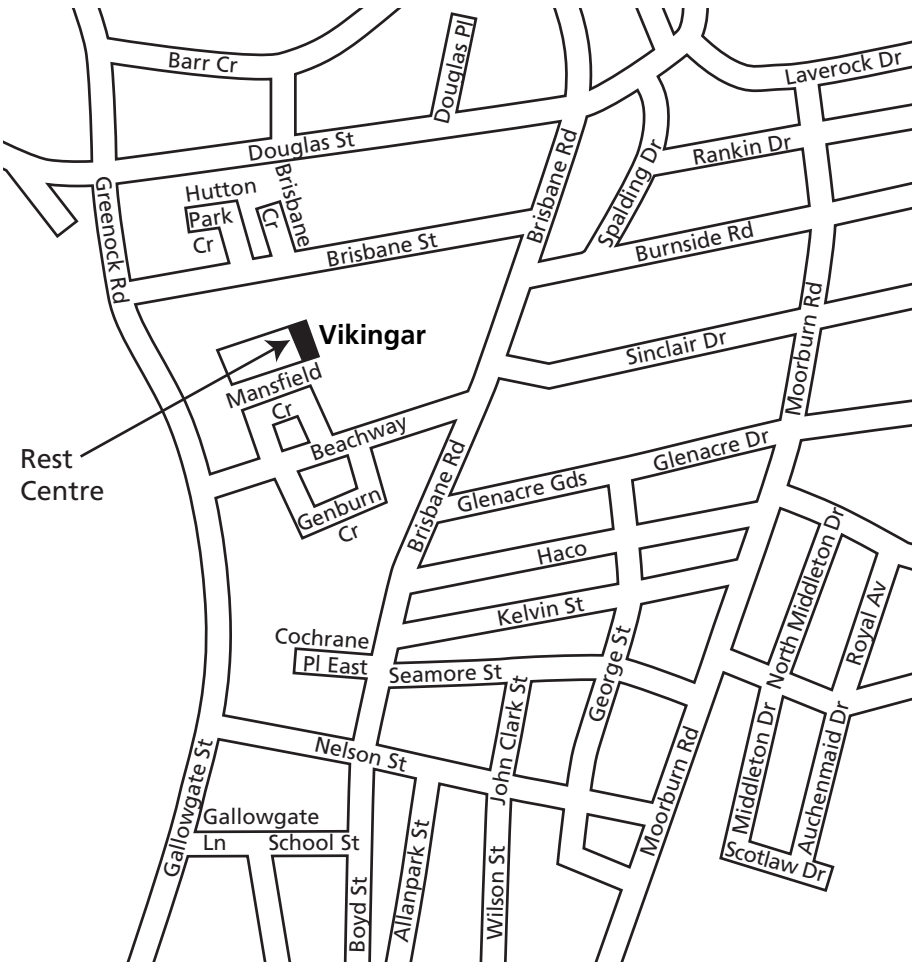
- listen to the public broadcast information for news on which rest centres have been designated as the most appropriate for immediate use
- take your completed Evacuation Registration Card with you
- make sure fires are out and that cookers, ventilation fans, TVs etc. are turned off and unplugged
- close all internal doors
- leave a white sheet hung up inside a front room window to denote you have left the premises
- lock up your property
- leave using your own transport, keeping windows and ventilation closed. If this is not possible you will be told where transport will be provided
- go to the designated rest centre; or
- go to a friend or relative's home if it is outside the evacuation area, following any official advice for attending a Radiation Monitoring Unit **before you leave the area**. Please inform the police of your location with the Evacuation Registration Card.

Contamination Monitoring

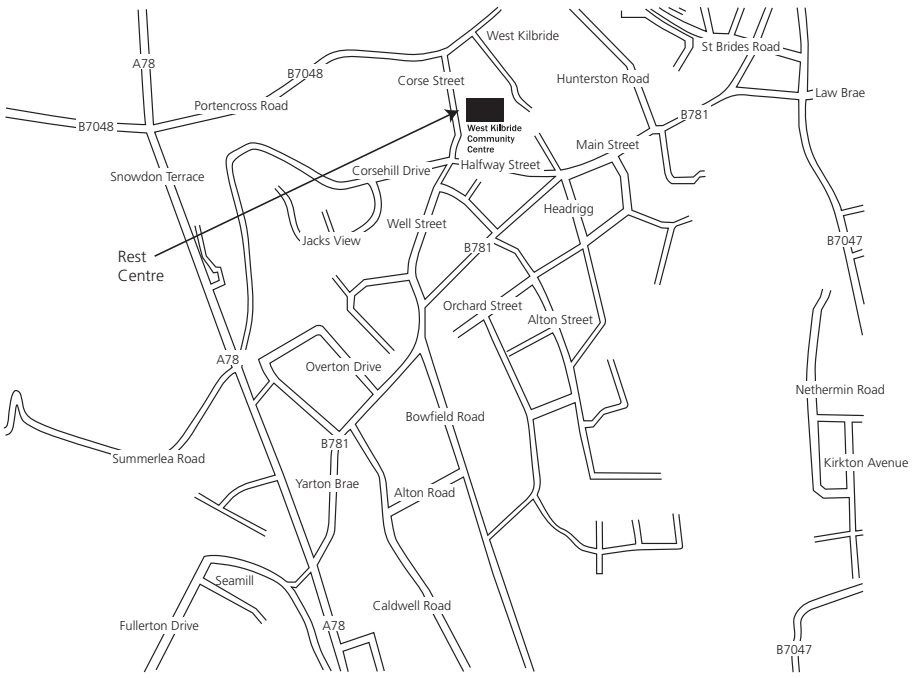
Depending on the exact nature of the incident, the response organisations may decide to set up a Radiation Monitoring Unit to check members of the public for radioactive contamination. If this happens, you will be given instructions on where to go and when you should attend. **If you are advised that contamination monitoring is necessary, you should not leave the area until you have been monitored, unless given other specific instructions.** This is to stop the potential spread of contamination to other areas and to other people.

Unless otherwise directed the designated rest centres can be found at Largs and West Kilbride (see maps below).

Vikingar
Greenock Road, Largs, KA30 8QL



West Kilbride Community Centre
Corse Street, West Kilbride, KA23 9AX



A rest centre is set up to provide temporary accommodation for people who have been affected by an emergency and is a place of safety where any welfare or social needs can be met for a short period of time. If required, arrangements will be made for longer-term relocation.

5 ARRANGEMENTS FOR SPECIFIC GROUPS OF PEOPLE

PETS

If you are advised to leave and circumstances permit, take your pets with you. If possible, bring pets in a transporter such as a cage or basket and leave them in the car during registration. If they are left behind seek advice at the evacuation assembly points.

VULNERABLE PEOPLE

Persons being cared for in premises known to the local authority or health authority and who would have difficulty leaving the area will have special arrangements made for them.

If you have any form of impairment (e.g. you have difficulty in reading, hearing or mobility) and feel you may need assistance in an emergency situation please contact **North Ayrshire Council** by telephone: **01294 310000**.

We will contact you to discuss the matter further to enable us to provide the correct level of assistance should it be needed in an emergency situation. The matter will be dealt with in confidence.

VISITORS/TRADESPEOPLE

You should ensure that any visitors/tradespeople are made aware of these emergency arrangements. This should include guests or people working at/on your premises.

6 AFTER AN EVENT

After the initial phase of a radiation emergency has concluded, recovery activities may continue for a significant period of time.

You will be provided with information on any actions you need to take, but you should be aware that it may be necessary to place some restrictions on normal every day activities such as spending time outdoors.

If you have been asked to leave the area during the incident then you will be told how and when it is safe for you to return.

Information from the emergency authorities will continue to be given over media outlets until more formal community engagement channels are set up.

7 THE AUTHORITIES RESPONSIBLE FOR IMPLEMENTING PROTECTIVE ACTIONS

The police are responsible for implementing protective actions for the public. This will initially be on the advice of EDF. As the emergency response develops, a multi-agency group will take over responsibility for the provision of advice on protective actions.

The following organisations are involved in the emergency arrangements for Hunterston B:

- Argyll and Bute Council
- Ayrshire Civil Contingencies Team
- British Telecom
- Civil Nuclear Constabulary
- East Ayrshire Council
- East Renfrewshire Council
- EDF Nuclear Operations
- Food Standards Scotland
- Glasgow Prestwick Airport
- Glasgow Scientific Service
- Inverclyde Council
- Maritime & Coastguard Agency
- Met Office
- Network Rail
- NHS Ayrshire & Arran
- NHS Greater Glasgow and Clyde
- North Ayrshire Council
- Nuclear Restoration Services (NRS)
- Office for Nuclear Regulation
- Police Scotland
- Renfrewshire Council
- Scottish Ambulance Service
- Scottish Environment Protection Agency
- Scottish Fire and Rescue Service
- Scottish Government
- Scottish Water
- South Ayrshire Council
- UK Health Security Agency

8 THE DETAILED EMERGENCY PLANNING ZONE (DEPZ)

The Detailed Emergency Planning Zone is centred on Hunterston B and extends out to 1.08km as it follows the geographical features (roads, natural boundaries, etc).

North Ayrshire Council is responsible for determining the DEPZ on the basis of information supplied by EDF. This information can be found in the Hunterston B Consequences Report, which is available here: **www.north-ayrshire.gov.uk/community-safety/emergency-planning.aspx**.

The DEPZ is shown outlined in purple on the map below:

9 THE OUTLINE PLANNING ZONE (OPZ)

The Outline Planning Zone is centred on Hunterston B and extends 30km in all directions. The OPZ is an area within which a framework exists for the response to an extremely unlikely but higher consequence incident. Further information on the OPZ can be found in the **Hunterston B Nuclear Power Station Off-Site Contingency Plan** and **www.north-ayrshire.gov.uk/community-safety/emergency-planning.aspx**.

10 SECURITY INFORMATION

We have numerous security arrangements in place at our power stations in order to reduce the risk of physical and cyber threats to our operations.

The Civil Nuclear Constabulary (CNC) is a specialised armed police force whose role is the protection of civil nuclear sites and nuclear materials. You may see CNC officers patrolling areas around the power station.

The site security control room is staffed 24 hours a day, seven days a week by EDF security guards and members of the Civil Nuclear Constabulary.

If you see any suspicious activity occurring in the vicinity of the power station, please notify site security immediately on the telephone number below.

Site security	01294 82 6212
UK anti-terror hotline	0800 789 321

SUSPICIOUS BEHAVIOUR

Examples of suspicious activity may include:

- people using recording equipment (such as mobile phones), or seen making notes or sketches of security details
- people loitering at or near premises for long periods and watching staff, visitors and deliveries for no apparent reason
- someone paying close attention to the power station perimeter fence line or entry and exit points
- people in stationary vehicles watching a building or structure
- vehicles moving slowly near buildings or structures, or parked in suspicious circumstances
- people asking you unusual questions about the power station, such as business operations, facilities, security or parking for no apparent reason.