



Site Stakeholder Group

Dungeness B Report – 10 May 2018

Introduction

2018 has been another very busy year for the station as we undertake important maintenance work to ensure the station can continue to safely provide low-carbon electricity until 2028 and beyond.

This report has been designed to complement the community newsletters that are circulated to SSG members and published on the [Dungeness B website](#) each month.

Safety

As EDF Energy, safety is our overriding priority.

As of the 10 May it has been:

- 2000 days (over five years) since the last Nuclear Reportable Event
- 320 days since the last Lost Time Incident – in October when a maintenance technician suffered lower back injury when replacing a bank of batteries
- 3871 days (over ten years) since the last contractors' Lost Time Incident

On 31 January, the ONR approved the **Periodic Safety Review (PSR)** for the power station until 2028. We welcome the ONR's approval of the third Periodic Safety Review for Dungeness B which addresses operation until 2028. This is good news for Dungeness B and signals the regulator's confidence in the station's safety, based on a review of a wide range of factors including operating procedures, safety cases and processes. There were no surprises in the review and we have significant investment planned over the next 10 years which will ensure that we can continue to operate the plant safely and reliably until at least 2028. We will continue to carefully monitor things such as graphite weight loss, boiler tube integrity and the plant's general condition.

We are preparing for a **'Level 2' Emergency Exercise** that involves Kent County Council, the local authorities, Kent Police, Fire and Ambulance Services and local public health services. The exercise was due to take place in March but has been postponed until May due to adverse weather conditions. We undertake these types of exercises every three years to allow all agency to practice their roles in an emergency.

Plant update

Output up to the end of April has been **2,709GWhrs** which is enough electricity for around 5% of UK homes.

Unit 22 is due to go on **statutory outage** at the end of August for just over 12 weeks. This is a £40m maintenance programme that we undertake on each of our reactors every three years. Around 1200 extra specialist workers will join the team on site and staying in the area, providing a significant boost to the regional economy

Construction of the station's **new sewage plant** is underway. The station has continued to use the large sewage plant that used to be shared with Dungeness A since the A station installed their own plant in

2016. The EA has granted the station with a revised discharge permit to clean up sewage before it goes out to sea. Work has started on the civil slab and is expected to be complete by Q3 2019.

We are also in the process of erecting a **new nitrogen storage and injection system**. The station requires nitrogen to support its safe shut-down capability. The existing nitrogen system has been in operation since Dungeness B was first commissioned and, due to its age and the recent extension of operating life of the station, requires replacement with a modern equivalent. The new civil slab of the new nitrogen system was completed two weeks ago. We will start erecting four new storage tanks in July 2018 – these will be placed vertically instead of horizontally and will be the same height as the two existing tanks used for nitrogen blanketing that are already positioned vertically. It is expected that the new storage plant will be operational by Q1 2019.

Environment

In March 2018, a small amount of fuel oil was found in a borehole sample on site during quarterly routine sampling. The Environment Agency has been made aware of the event and is being kept up-to-date with our investigation findings. We have found and repaired the cause (a leak caused by corrosion to a small section of a fuel oil pipe that was not often used). A review of the use of line indicates that the potential volume of fuel oil lost to ground is relatively small and some oil has already been recovered. The oil is not contaminated (i.e. not radioactive) and has been contained to site and there is no impact to the public. We are continuing to monitor the situation and the affected pipework has now been repaired to make sure it doesn't happen again.

Earlier this month, we received a letter from the Environment Agency regarding some waste fuel oil left site without the appropriate arrangements in place in October 2017. This was normal waste fuel oil subject to environmental regulations and not to nuclear regulations. EDF Energy takes its environmental responsibility very seriously and we have since completed a full internal investigation. As a result a number of improvements, including additional staff training, have been put in place to prevent this from happening again.

Apprentices

We currently have 24 apprentices and will be welcoming another four apprentices, two girls and two boys, in September 2018 who will begin their training at Bridgwater & Taunton College.

This year's cohort of six apprentices, including two girls, have now settled into their first year at the Engineering Training Academy at the Royal Naval Base, HMS Sultan near Portsmouth since joining in September last year.

Promoting STEM

We are actively trying to encourage more girls to take up STEM subjects (science, technology, engineering and maths) at school to improve diversity in the workplace. Since November 2017 we have welcomed more than 700 girls on tour from over 30 local schools.

In support of the Government's Year of Engineering, we are running a 'STEM Club' over the school holidays. This gives the youngsters the opportunity to go on an 'Exploring Electricity' plant tour and undertake some engineering activities in our visitor centre.

Charity fundraising

Since autumn 2016 the station has raised over £10,000 for the company's official charity partner, Breast Cancer Now.

Some fundraising activities have been very unusual. In February, Jenn and Graham Tibbenham, who both work at the station, took part in a 12-hour endurance challenge to race a lawnmower on a frozen lake in Finland, raising more than £600 for the charity.

Activities will continue throughout the year, including a Golf Day in July for employees past and present to raise money for the charity.

Visitor centre activity

The visitor centre celebrated its fifth birthday on 15 February. Since opening in 2013 we have taken 24,000 people around the station on tour.

The tours have been hugely popular, with this year's tour figures increasing by 37% on 2016's numbers.. So far this year we have welcomed 1570 people on tour.

As well as site tours, we have many other activities planned throughout the year for the local community, including craft days and visiting local primary schools.

We work closely with our neighbours and are hosting three 'Discovering Dungeness' days over the Summer in which visitors arrive at Dungeness on a miniature steam train on the Romney, Hythe and Dymchurch Railway, then enjoy a nature trail with the Romney Marsh Countryside Partnership, followed by a tour of the power station.

Local community and sponsorship

In January, fifteen employees from the station were recognised for their contributions to the community at an awards ceremony for EDF Energy's Force for Good programme, which celebrates volunteering, community work and fundraising.

Security guard Dipak Kaucha was awarded a Gold Award for his role in providing humanitarian support to communities devastated by Hurricane Irma in October 2017. Silver and Bronze prizes were awarded for on-call firefighters, scout leaders, a football coach and a school governor.

The power station is proud to support the local community and have sponsored the shirts for local under-12 football team, Grasshoppers Junior Football Club as well as equipment for a local boxing club.

We are also supporting local community events including Lydd Club Day, Romney Country Fayre and Hythe Festival.

Dungeness estate

We are very proud of our association with the Dungeness estate – which we have owned since 2015 – and we are committed to being responsible landowners of this unique landscape.

We continue to work closely with the Romney Marsh Countryside Partnership to keep the estate well maintained and looked after. In April we removed four old containers that were posing a risk to safety and attracting anti-social behaviour.

Shingle

There has been a lot in the local press about shingle quarrying at Allen's Bank north of Lydd recently. We can confirm that EDF Energy is not involved with any of this activity.

In March we undertook some shingle movements from the borrow pit on the Dungeness estate to keep the shingle ridge around the power station maintained at a certain height and width to help defend against flooding in extreme events. These defences mean that the probability of a flood at the site is as low as once in every 10,000 years.

The Station Director meets with regularly local residents to discuss any particular issues they have and we always write to local residents as soon as is practicable to inform them when the shingle extraction ('beach feeding') is due to take place.

We are looking at different options for shingle movement but we are still some way off any firm decision.

Company news: Generation

Graphite at Hunterston B

A recent inspection programme at Hunterston B has confirmed the expected presence of new keyway root cracks in the reactor core and also identified these happening at a slightly higher rate than modelled.

EDF Energy has decided that while Hunterston B Reactor 3 could return to operation from the current outage, it will remain offline while the company works with the Office for Nuclear Regulation to ensure that the longer term safety case reflects the findings of the recent inspections and includes the results obtained from other analysis and modelling.

We expect the unit to return to service before the end of 2018.

The issue of keyway route cracking is one we expect to affect all the AGR reactors at some point in their lives, but **no cracks have been identified** in either of the reactors at Dungeness B.

Company news: Nuclear New Build

Hinkley Point C

The project is progressing well with almost 3,000 workers currently on site every day.

Contracts worth nearly £9.5bn have been signed and the project is on target to deliver 64% of the construction value to UK companies.

The project is on track to reach 'J-zero' in mid-2019, when work will begin on structures above ground.

Sizewell C

EDF Energy and CGN have continued to develop plans for Sizewell C, including work to reduce construction costs by up to 20% and to explore new financing models to bring down costs further.

Bradwell B

Proposals to build Bradwell B in Essex are being led by CGN and supported by EDF Energy. The UK HPR1000 reactor design for Bradwell is currently going through a 'Generic Design Assessment' by the regulators, the ONR and Environment Agency.