

# Hinkley Point B power station

## August 2015 monthly report

### Introduction

This is our latest monthly report, sharing news with our local community stakeholder groups and local councils. This forms part of our commitment to being an open and transparent business. These reports are also available to all members of the public on [www.edfenergy.com](http://www.edfenergy.com) website. This newsletter covers August 2015.

### Safety update

We measure our safety performance against top tier indicators, including nuclear reportable events and environmental events. It is now over eight years since we experienced a nuclear reportable event, and over six years since our last environmental event.

During August auditors from Lloyds Register Quality Assurance (LRQA) completed their fourth annual LRQA surveillance at Hinkley B, and recommended the station's certification continues against the management system standards for quality (ISO 9001:2008), environment (ISO 14001:2004), occupational health and safety (OHSAS 18001:2007) and the publicly available standard for asset management (PAS55-1:2008).

### Station generation

During routine protection testing on turbine 7 on 16 August, a fault occurred which led to the safe automatic shutdown of reactor 3. The unit was successfully returned to service on 22 August and operated at nominal full load for the remainder of the month. Before the shutdown, the reactor had operated continuously for 515 days.

During this shutdown, one of the reactor's 81 control rods did not fully enter into the reactor core, and stopped 73cm from full insertion. The station has conducted a thorough investigation into the event, and the cause has been traced to a faulty actuator in the control rod. An actuator is the mechanism responsible for moving the control rods up and down. The faulty control rod actuator was replaced and tested thoroughly before the reactor was returned to service. Under all operational conditions, the safety case for Hinkley Point B requires only a minimum of 26 control rods (out of 81) to be fully inserted into the reactor core to safely shutdown the reactor.



Reactor 4 / turbine 8 operated at nominal full load throughout the month, and has been online since returning to power after its statutory outage on 18 April 2015.



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## Station news

### Hinkley's visitor centre welcomes its 30,000<sup>th</sup> visitor

A family of four from Yatton were given a surprise VIP welcome by EDF Energy staff as the Hinkley Point visitor centre clocked up its 30,000<sup>th</sup> visitor.

Paul Doe and his sons, Daniel, aged 12, Alex and Jake, both aged 11, had dropped into the visitor centre located in Angel Place Shopping Centre, Bridgwater, to take part in a pre arranged group tour of Hinkley Point B power station. As soon as they were walked through the door, they were immediately greeted by Peter Evans, Hinkley Point B's station director, and Nigel Cann, Hinkley Point C's construction director, who presented them with a handful of gifts.



The interactive centre opened in December 2012, and since then has proved extremely popular with people of all ages and has developed into a focal point for all EDF Energy enquiries 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. Due to the location there is much interest in nuclear new build and the centre contains a wealth of information and regularly hosts public engagement sessions on the project and future careers.



One of the successful initiatives introduced at the visitor centre has been the launch of a service where local customers can drop in and talk face to face with a customer services representative about their tariffs, electricity bills, and any questions they might have. The service is available on Wednesdays and the team has helped more than 3,000 people.

Tours of Hinkley Point B have also proved extremely popular, and since the centre opened over 7,000 people have visited the power station – 50% of which have travelled more than 50 miles for the experience.

The centre also regularly host special themed events, including educational groups, community organisations and emergency services.

Peter Evans, Hinkley Point B's station director said: "It gave me enormous pleasure in celebrating our 30,000<sup>th</sup> visitor and meeting and welcoming the Doe family through the door. Since we first opened the visitor centre over two and a half years ago, the community has made great use of the facility, either through wanting to know more information about nuclear power or raising a customer query, and its great to see the centre located in such a prominent place."

Nigel Cann, Hinkley Point C's construction director, added: "The visitor centre and what it offers has been instrumental in strengthening our openness and trust agenda in the Somerset area, and we look forward to welcoming our next 30,000 visitors."

### Company news

#### Heysham 1 and Dungeness complete maintenance shutdowns

During August, two reactors at the Lancashire and Kent sites were switched back on following the successful finish of their planned maintenance shutdowns. Both sites saw a large increase in their workforces as contract partners joined EDF Energy's staff for the shutdowns which happen every three years. During the shutdowns, which take around 18 months of planning, the teams inspect and maintain key parts of the stations.

#### New wetland habitat near Sizewell takes shape

Environmental experts have been given a preview of a new wetland habitat under development by EDF Energy in Leiston. The Environment Agency, Natural England, the Internal Drainage Board, Suffolk Coastal District Council, Suffolk County Council and Suffolk Wildlife Trust took part in a workshop with the project leaders and were given a tour of a trial excavation of one of the new wetland basins under construction. Trial excavation work is vital as it helps the project team determine the best way to carry out the work across the wider site.

EDF Energy is proposing to create this new wildlife habitat in advance, to help compensate for any future potential landtake from the Sizewell Marshes SSSI should the proposed Sizewell C nuclear power station be developed

### Next local community meeting

The next Site Stakeholder Group meeting will be held on Friday 30 October 2015 from 10am to 1pm at Hill House, Otterhampton.

### Contact

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