



SIZEWELL B

Powering the nation



Monthly Newsletter

Issue 09 & 10 September and October 2020

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. These reports are available to all members of the public on www.edfenergy.com

Whilst we will do our best to always use plain English, talking about our business sometimes involves specific terminology, and you will find a glossary of any terms used at the end of each monthly report.

Safety

We measure our safety performance against top tier indicators, including nuclear reportable events, environmental events, and staff and contract partner recordable injuries.

During the period of the report there have been:

- No injuries to employees
- No nuclear reportable incidents
- No environmental incidents

Station performance

Sizewell B back to full power following support to National Grid ESO

Sizewell B power station returned to full power on Friday 25 September back to generating 1200MW of low carbon electricity. Sizewell B had agreed to remain at 50% output until 24 September 2020, as the demand for electricity has fallen sharply as a result of paused economic activity during the Covid-19 pandemic. National Grid ESO requested EDF's support back in April to help manage the impact on power demand.

The agreement involved halving output at Sizewell B for a period of over 4 months and ran in parallel to the ESO's existing balancing of all forms of electricity generation.

The ability to deliberately reduce supply from various sources, including nuclear, has provided important help in managing these unprecedented conditions.

National Grid ESO has a target to make the grid capable of operating with 100% low carbon electricity by 2025. Not only is nuclear compatible with this target, but it is necessary to make it possible. Nuclear provides an important mechanical benefit to the system called 'inertia' which wind and solar do not. Inertia acts like a shock absorber, helping the grid absorb constantly occurring changes in electricity demand and supply.

New nuclear plants can also offer flexibility. In France, the system is dominated by nuclear power and the nuclear fleet's output turns up and down in response to demand. The EPRs that are being built at Hinkley Point C will be capable of flexible operation.

To achieve Net Zero, the UK needs nuclear - to provide low-carbon electricity irrespective of the weather or time of day and to make the system operable without fossil fuels.

The shutdown of the turbine has given the Sizewell B team the opportunity to safely and successfully carry out planned routine maintenance work activities. This has all been completed while we manage the Covid-19 risks.

As previously communicated, as a result of operating at reduced power we have taken the decision to move the start of our next refuelling outage to March 2021.

Please click on the link below for a daily update of the status of our eight nuclear power stations. The link will show which nuclear reactors are in service and what they were generating at the time the information was updated. You can also see which reactors are out of service, what the reasons are and when we expect them to return to service. In addition, we have included the expected timing of the next statutory outage of each nuclear reactor.

<http://www.edfenergy.com/energy/power-station/daily-statuses>

Sizewell B and the Community

Robert Gunn takes over as Sizewell B Station Director

Sizewell B has appointed a new station director following the promotion of Paul Morton to Chief Nuclear Officer.



Robert Gunn was with Torness power station in Scotland for 29 years where he was the station director before taking on the same role for Sizewell B in Suffolk this month.

Speaking about the move, Robert Gunn, Sizewell B station director, said: "I am proud to join the Sizewell B team here in Suffolk that operate the UK's only pressurised water reactor. The station is a place of secure, skilled long-term employment for local people and plays a crucial role in helping the UK tackle climate change through its low carbon electricity generation. I look forward to working alongside the Sizewell C project so we can realise more employment, skills and training opportunities for the communities we serve and an even greater step forward to meeting our climate change commitments."

Robert has a first-class honours degree in Physics with Management Studies. He also completed a post-grad, with distinction, in Engineering and Project Management. He is a Chartered Physicist and a Chartered Engineer. He is married with three sons aged 21, 18 and 14 and enjoys cycling, circuit training, walking his dog, gardening and spending time with his family.

Our Covid response

At Sizewell B we are continuing to manage our footfall of staff on site and have brought in a number of measures to protect our key workers safety:

- Formation of a Site Pandemic Working group
- Phased approach for staff to return to work
- Encourage homeworking and flexible working
- Risk assessments for all offices and buildings
- Maintaining 2m social distancing, hand hygiene and the use of face masks
- Introduced one way systems and keep left walkways

- Introduced staggered start of day patterns
- Enhanced onsite cleaning
- Using technology for onsite meetings wherever possible
- Installation of heat detection cameras and testing

Relocated Facilities at Sizewell B

The planning application approved in September 2019 which was subject to a Judicial Review claim was heard in front of the Judiciary on 8th September 2020. We note that the high court judge has ruled that the decision to grant planning permission for the relocation of some Sizewell B buildings on EDF land was lawfully made.

The judge acknowledged the robust nature of the report provided by East Suffolk Council regarding the environmental impact of the work. The report which was informed by the council arboriculturist found that the majority (73%) of the 229 trees that need to be removed from Coronation Wood are low quality plantation wood with a limited life expectancy and limited amenity value. It was judged that this loss would be “balanced” by the planting of over 2,500 juvenile woodland trees, including a mixture of broadleaf and coniferous species appropriate for the prevailing soil and coastal conditions.

During August EDF held a public consultation seeking feedback on revised proposals for relocating some facilities across the Sizewell B power station site which will be followed by a planning application.

Summary of scheme changes are:

- Pillbox Field would remain a greenfield site, with some additional planting provided.
- The training centre would be reduced in height, so would be less visible within the Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty.
- We propose to use previously developed Sizewell A land.

Filmed tour of Sizewell B launched to support local students

Sizewell B has launched a new filmed tour of the power station to support continued learning during the pandemic for those schools not able to make visits to the site.

The filmed tour is presented by 20-year-old Sizewell B Graduate Apprentice, Poppy Able. Poppy went to Thomas Mills High School in Framlingham and joined the power station after completing her A-Levels and a work experience placement at Sizewell B.

The short film has been launched so education tours can continue in school classrooms. It will be used to complement the curriculum for GCSE students and as part of Young Sizewell C, an initiative to deliver support and guidance to 16-21 year olds considering their next steps. Sizewell C announced that the project aims to recruit 1,500 apprentices, offering an excellent career path for local students as Sizewell B has for Poppy Able.

Those wanting to book a visit to Sizewell B or see the filmed tour should contact the Sizewell Visitor Centre 01728 653974.

Sizewell B apprentice powers through to scoop top award

Sizewell B apprentice Beth Gant has been crowned the EDF fleet wide apprentice of the year. Beth was picked from 45 graduating apprentices across the UK who have now successfully completed their apprenticeships and will be taking on job roles at EDF power stations.



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Beth studied for her GCSEs at Westbourne Academy in Ipswich and went on to study Maths, Biology and Politics A-Levels at Colchester Sixth Form College. On gaining her A-Levels Beth then decided to travel and work in retail whilst she thought about what she wants to do for a long term career.

Beth discovered the EDF engineering apprenticeships and following a successful application started on the four year programme in 2016 and has now secured a job as a Mechanical Maintenance Technician.

The 45 apprentices, who were in the 2016 intake, were the ninth cohort to graduate from the fleet scheme after spending their first 2 years at HMS Sultan in Portsmouth, giving them the foundations not just in academia but also within their Control & Instrumentation, Electrical and Mechanical disciplines. During their 4 year apprenticeship, they all attained excellent academic and practical achievements, completing, as a minimum, their discipline specific qualification manuals, and many also achieving HNCs.

To date close to 650 young people have started the fleet scheme, which is now delivered by Bridgewater and Taunton College in Somerset, in collaboration with the National College for Nuclear (NCfN).

Radioactivity in food and the environment report published

The UK's environmental regulators and food safety agencies have published the Radioactivity in Food and the Environment (RIFE) report. This year marks a quarter of a century since the landmark RIFE report was first published by the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food in 1996; the first joint monitoring and assessment report for the whole of the UK.

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/radioactivity-in-food-and-the-environment-rife-reports>

Sizewell C - We are listening Suffolk

Sizewell C is making important changes to its proposals for the planned new nuclear power station after listening to feedback from the two local authorities in the region as well as residents, MPs and other stakeholders.

In a notification submitted to the Planning Inspectorate, Sizewell C is proposing a series of changes which include increasing rail and sea deliveries during construction to reduce the number of HGVs on local roads.

The project also plans to reduce the use of AONB land on the Sizewell estate by working closely with Sizewell A, which is being decommissioned, and by using existing land for critical buildings that need to be moved to allow construction to get underway. Furthermore, Sizewell C is proposing additional land for the creation of fen meadow.

The public will have an opportunity to comment on the proposed changes during a 30day consultation which will start on 18 November. The consultation will be operated in strict accordance with the pandemic guidelines.

Other steps that have been taken to improve the benefits for Suffolk include:

- An increase from 1000 – 1500 apprenticeships
- The launch of Young Sizewell C to provide links through education into training and jobs with Sizewell C and other regional companies
- A clear pathway for students leaving education now to start work on Hinkley Point C and then return to the Sizewell C project in an advanced role – the first of those apprenticeships have been allocated to students in East Coast College and they are scheduled to start at HPC this year
- Allocating our apprenticeship levy to enable local firms to take on apprentices in critical skills areas for the region

Public access to the consultation material:-

There will be a virtual exhibition and you can view the consultation document and response form by:

- Downloading it from the homepage of the Sizewell C website: www.sizewellc.co.uk
- Calling freephone **0800 197 6102** or by emailing info@sizewellc.co.uk to request a hard copy or USB stick.
- The UK Government has put in place lockdown measures in response to the COVID-19 pandemic. At the time of writing restrictions will be lifted from 3 December. However, this consultation can be accessed remotely and our team is on hand to answer questions and engage directly with you.
- The Sizewell C team can provide presentations to remote meetings and webinars.
- Members of the team can discuss the proposals over the phone.
- Documents can be sent to your home and feedback received via Freepost, email or collection arranged.

Next local community meeting

The next Sizewell Stakeholder Group meeting will take place **week commencing 18 January 2021**. For further information on the timings please follow the link on the [Magnox website](#).

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