

# Sizewell B power station

## Monthly Newsletter Issue 604

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### 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](http://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 output

The station has operated at around full power during this period.

Please click on the link below that provides 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>

### Company news

#### Science events tackle gender gap

EDF Energy supported two major events in June, Glasgow's science, maths engineering and technology event and Cheltenham's renowned science festival.

In Glasgow the events reached more than 750 girls and supports the company's wider commitment to help close gender gap in science and tech jobs in Scotland.

The company teamed up with the charitable organisation SmartSTEMs and two of Glasgow's leading universities, Glasgow Caledonian University (GCU) and the University of Strathclyde, to offer more than 750 girls



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across the city the chance to learn about the benefits of STEM careers.

In Cheltenham EDF Energy maintained its partnership with the science festival, with the EDF Energy Arena hosting talks and events throughout the week. Our volunteers ran sessions on how a nuclear power station works and how electricity is made, also promoting the Company's 'Pretty Curious' campaign.

This year 95 schools from as far away as the south coast and London suburbs came to the festival, bringing around 5,000 pupils who took part in free science educational events, made possible by EDF Energy's sponsorship. The festival continues to attract some of the biggest names in science from across the UK and Europe.

## Sizewell B and the Community

### Sizewell B fuel store becomes operational, allowing planned refuelling to take place on schedule

The first spent nuclear fuel has been placed in Sizewell B's new dry fuel store, marking a milestone in a programme which enables the continued safe operation of the power station.

Successful operation of the new dry fuel store means Sizewell B can be refuelled as scheduled this November. It can now continue to produce reliable low carbon electricity to supply 2.6 million homes until at least 2035 and potentially for a further 20 years, subject to life extension.

It is another example of the investment being made in EDF Energy's eight existing nuclear power stations and demonstrates the company's commitment to the safe long term management of waste. This eight-year project started with community consultation which has remained key as work continued through planning and into construction and commissioning.

EDF Energy chief executive Vincent de Rivaz thanked 250 people involved in the innovative and complex project during a visit to the fuel store today. He was joined by EDF Energy Generation managing director Stuart Crooks, Holtec vice-President Tom Marcille and Sizewell B's station director Paul Moreton.

The operation of the fuel store enables the next refuelling and maintenance work to take place at Sizewell B as scheduled later this year. During this refuelling work a third of the fuel will be removed from the station's reactor and replaced with new fuel. Moving fuel in to the dry fuel store has freed up space in Sizewell B's fuel pond for spent fuel which will be removed from the reactor.

The operation of the dry fuel store follows the completion of a robust regulatory programme of work. The store will safely house spent fuel from Sizewell B until a Geological Disposal Facility is available for the longer term storage of spent fuel.

A dry fuel store is a method of storing spent nuclear fuel that has already been cooled in the spent fuel pond. The fuel is loaded into a metal canister which is then welded shut, and then placed within a large, leak-tight steel and concrete cask. Holtec International, a world leader in dry fuel store technology is EDF Energy's lead supplier for the project.



**Paul Morton, Sizewell B's station director with Vincent de Rivaz, EDF Energy chief executive.**

## EDF Energy STEM Ambassador's inspire female students at National Women in Engineering event

STEM ambassadors at Sizewell B power station have taken hands-on virtual reality technology to Whersted Park, Suffolk to promote women in engineering.

Around 250 students from 10 schools across Suffolk and Norfolk got to meet with 20 local energy and engineering firms to quiz them about how to get into the sector.



At the event, the girls were given the opportunity to speak with inspirational women working in STEM careers, as well as having the hands-on opportunity of experiencing virtual reality technology.

The students listened to a panel of speakers including EDF Energy's Katie Bannister; Reactor Operator at Sizewell B. Katie shared her experiences of how she came to work within a STEM industry joining EDF Energy via their graduate program 5 years ago. Katie joined the nuclear industry when she learned about the exciting opportunities during a work experience week with EDF Energy's Nuclear New Build business. Katie is now a qualified Reactor Operator at Sizewell B nuclear power station. Katie has also been a STEM Ambassador for 5 years, taking part in workshops, conferences and working with children of all ages to discuss the opportunities in STEM subjects.

National Women in Engineering Day is an International awareness campaign to raise the profile of women in engineering and focus on the amazing career opportunities available to girls in this exciting industry. Created by the Women's Engineering Society (WES), it takes place annually on 23 June.

The pace of digital innovation and scale of UK infrastructure investment means that there are huge opportunities for careers in STEM subjects. However, just one in five people working in STEM today in the UK is a woman and the number of young women studying these subjects at further education remains consistently below boys.

The company invests heavily in research and development and digital innovation across the UK in homes, businesses and electricity generation. With a significant need for skills over the coming years, EDF Energy is aiming to increase its proportion of women STEM apprentices and graduates to 30% of new starters in 2018. This compares to a national average for engineering apprentices of just 3.4%.

Since 2014 National Women in Engineering day has focused attention on the great opportunities for women in engineering, at a time when it has never been more important to address the engineering skills shortage.

## Partnership working at Fritton Lake gives the Critically Endangered European Eel hope for the future

Business and Conservation Groups get together to help the critically endangered European Eel at Fritton Lake, near Great Yarmouth.

Sizewell B power station has joined forces with the Somerleyton Estate and the Sustainable Eel Group to help protect critically endangered eels at Fritton Lake. A new tidal flap was installed on Monday 5 June, World Environment Day.

It is part of a huge programme of work which is underway across Europe to help restore eel populations by restoring wetlands and removing barriers to the eels' migration routes.



Fritton Lake is ideal habitat for eels. It is connected to the sea just south of Great Yarmouth. However, the previous tidal sluice, to keep sea water out, was also stopping baby eels getting in from the sea and adult eels getting out. The new sluice will let baby eels in, to grow in Fritton Lake to become adults, which will then get out again to breed. The eels will grow there for between 5 and 20 years before migrating back to sea to spawn.

Fritton Lake is 150 acres in area, a significant nursery ground for eels. This will help to reverse the declining trend in eel populations in the UK and across Europe.

The European Eel, once thriving across Europe and the UK, is currently classified as 'critically endangered' as their numbers have declined by about 90% over the past 40 years. This is due to a number of reasons – mainly climate change, barriers to migration, destruction of wetland habitat, disease and overfishing in some places.

**The new tidal flap. The ball is a float, which makes the valve close slowly, allowing baby eels to enter the lake, and adult eels to escape.**

### Next local community meeting

The next Sizewell Stakeholder Group meeting will take place on Thursday 14 September 2017, 10:00hrs, venue to be confirmed. Any member of the public is welcome to attend.

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Term	Definition
Nuclear reportable event or incident	Nuclear reportable events are events reported to the Office for Nuclear Regulation in compliance with EDF Energy's nuclear site licences.
Lost time injury	Lost Time Injury is an absence of one day or more resulting from an injury incurred during an accident - generally in UK industry a less stringent three day or more criteria is used.
Environmental event or incident	Environmental events arise from wastes or discharges above permitted levels or breaches of permitted conditions.
Outage	A period during which a reactor is shut down. The periodic shutdown of a reactor including for maintenance, inspection and testing or, in some cases for refuelling is known as a planned outage. In the UK, some planned outages are known as statutory outages and are required by the conditions attached to the nuclear site licence needed to operate the station. Unscheduled shutdown of a reactor for a period is known as an unplanned outage.
Unit	A unit refers to one of the reactors at the power station and its generating turbine