

Torness monthly report

June 2016

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. While 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

- The station had one lost time incident (LTI) during the reporting period when an EDF Energy member of staff tripped and fell and fractured his wrist, contract partners have had 718 LTI free days up to 30 June.
- The station had no emergency services call outs during June.
- There were two first aid injuries at the station in June.
- The station had no environmental events during June and has gone 1,960 days without an environmental event (over four years).

Station output

Three flasks containing spent fuel were safely transported to Sellafield for reprocessing during the period.

Reactor 1 and reactor 2 were operational for the whole month.

Station news

Torness employees learn about wind power

Most employees working in one part of the company like to find out what colleagues elsewhere are up to – when they get the chance. That was certainly the case when staff at Torness were given the opportunity to visit one of the company's windfarms and learn more about windpower.

Fifteen employees travelled from Torness power station to Fallago Rig windfarm in the Scottish Borders as part of an open day to encourage better local awareness and understanding of the company's low-carbon commitments.



During a guided tour, the groups had the chance to look inside the turbines and visit the control room.

Sean Macdonald, Torness finance manager, who went on the trip, said: "Learning about the cost of the turbines, how they are built, their maintenance and lifespan was interesting. We got to stand inside a turbine, understand the basic workings, how much electricity is generated and how the wind strength affects the generation and how the blades stay attached in gale force wind!"

Gail French, management team secretary, said: "It was good to have the opportunity to get out of the office and do something different. I didn't realise just how big the turbines were until I was actually standing next to one. It would have been good if there was more wind when we were there to see it going faster but it was interesting when the guys were showing us the control panels and explaining how they can do a lot of the work remotely. I have recommended the visit to my colleagues for future opportunities as I found it really enjoyable."

Visitor centre tour guide Belinda Smith said: "It was good to get an insight into different day-to-day roles in EDF Energy. We hadn't realised we would be able to go inside the turbine and found the talk on how it functions very interesting."

Julian Davies, visitor centre tour guide, also found the visit informative. "I wasn't aware that one turbine alone can provide sufficient electricity to the grid to power 100,000 homes for a year," he said. "The staff provided some great commentary around the history of the site, its set-up and the maintenance aspect of managing the windfarm to ensure it realises its maximum output."

Five stars come naturally for Torness visitor centre



The visitor centre at EDF Energy's Torness power station is celebrating retaining its five-star Visit Scotland rating as its nature trail re-opens for the summer.

The centre was rated "exceptional" during a recent mystery shopper visit and was particularly commended for the attitude and knowledge of the staff as well as the quality of the information on offer to visitors.

Station Director Paul Winkle said: "Torness power station produces enough, safe, reliable, low carbon electricity to power two million homes and I want to be able to tell as many people as possible how we do that. So I am delighted that the free visitor centre and station tour have retained their five-star rating. It is recognition of the welcome and quality of experience visitors to the station have."

The confirmation of the visitor centre and station tour as one of East Lothian's top visitor attractions coincides with the launch of the summer nature trail.

The trail will be open every day except Sunday throughout July and August and is teeming with life.

Yellow wagtails, curlews, redshanks, oystercatchers and at least 16 species of butterfly have been spotted along the trail and the land around the station is also home to wildflowers like northern marsh orchids, bird's-foot-trefoil and knapweed.

Faith Scott, visitor centre manager, said: "I hope lots of families will come along to the visitor centre for a five-star experience during the summer holidays. As well as finding out about the power station and searching for wildlife they can also collect stamps along the route; if they find them all they will win a prize."

Company news

EDF Energy Renewables starts work on the Blyth offshore wind farm

EDF Energy Renewables is to build a new offshore wind farm off the coast of Blyth in Northumberland.



Construction work for the project has begun onshore and offshore work will start in 2017 to install five turbines of 41.5MW in capacity. The turbines, will provide enough low carbon electricity to power 33, 000 homes.

At its peak there will be around 200 people working on the project.

Matthieu Hue, EDF Energy Renewables CEO, said: "As a company, we already have a strong presence in the North East, in low carbon electricity generation and serving customers including our first offshore wind farm at Teesside so we're pleased to be able to add another project to our portfolio in the region."

Inspiring female students at National Women in Engineering events

Events at EDF Energy's sites marked National Women in Engineering week, as the sites worked with schools and colleges.

Hartlepool and Sizewell B visitor centres held events to promote women's roles in engineering.

Around 200 students from 22 schools across Norfolk, Waveney and Suffolk met with 50 local energy and engineering firms to quiz them about how to get into the sector.

At Hartlepool girls were invited from four schools to take part in the 'little bits' workshop, working with engineers from site.

Tenants benefit by award-winning renewable heating partnership

Over the past 18 months, EDF Energy and Kensa Heat Pumps have helped tenants in Devon and Cornwall save money on their energy bills through an award-winning partnership.

The unique commitment between EDF Energy and Cornwall based Kensa Heat Pumps has helped social landlords to replace inefficient electric heating and oil fired systems.

It is projected that the partnership will see cost savings of £24,000 around £325 per household along with significant carbon reductions.

Next local community meeting

The Local Community Liaison Committee meeting will be held on 16 March 2017 at Torness power station.

Contacts

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If you would like to receive this newsletter via e-mail please contact Ashleigh on the above address.

Glossary of terms

Term	Definition
Nuclear reportable event or incident	Nuclear reportable events are events reported to the Office for Nuclear Regulation (ONR) in compliance with EDF Energy's nuclear site licences.
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.
LTI	When a member of staff injures themselves at work, and is absent from work for one day or more, this is referred to as a lost-time incident (LTI)