

Torness monthly report

June 2014

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.

Safety

- The station had no lost time incidents (LTIs) during the reporting period and has had 1991 LTI free days up to 30 June, that's more than 5 years.
- The station had no emergency services call outs during June
- There was one first aid injury at the station in June
- The station had no environmental events during June and has gone 1232 days without an environmental event (more than 3 years)

Station output

Reactor 1 and 2 were operational for the month of June.

As previously communicated reactor one was shut down due to an issue with the electrical system within our conventional plant on 1 July. Our engineers are progressing through testing routines and it will be returned to power as soon as testing is satisfactorily completed.

Reactor 2 planned maintenance work started on Wednesday, 2 July to repair a turbine governor valve. The valve controls the flow of steam into the turbine and is part of the conventional, non- nuclear, side of the power station. Reactor 2 will be returned to power after this work has been finished.

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

Station news

Golden service award for Willie

There aren't many people who can say they've been with a company for 50 years, but Willie Clarkson is one of them! When 15 year old Willie started out as an apprentice at Kincardine power station on 6 July 1964, he could never have imagined what the future had in store.

His apprenticeship with the South of Scotland Electricity Board soon turned into a rewarding career in the energy industry and – half a century later – he has received a rare award, marking 50-years of service with EDF Energy and its predecessor companies. At the age of 65, Willie continues to work as a contract manager at Torness power station.

Willie started his career as a mechanical fitter and later moved to Longannet power station as a general assistant



engineer. He then applied for a position at Inverkip power station and spent five happy years there before returning to Longannet for a further five years. He then made the move to Torness 28 years ago. Willie started working at Torness during construction and his role was in the maintenance department looking after contracts. He was also an integral part of the opening when more than 6000 people a day visited the new site and when asked about a special memory in his career he recalled; "That fine day in May". Willie is of course referring to the Torness official opening on 13 May 1989 by Rt. Hon. Margaret Thatcher MP.

Willie has no regrets about his choice of career all those years ago. Willie said: "I have never had a day when I didn't want to go to work; I have always loved working in the industry and am appreciative of the many opportunities it provided me with."

During his career he has enjoyed watching young people joining the organisation as nervous new recruits and growing into leaders. The safety standards have also improved over the years and the Torness safety record is testament to the culture of the people who work here. And yes, there have many been many changes over the years.

"When I was young we had gas lighting and a wireless powered battery in our home. Now we have ipads, televisions and wireless internet hubs – all made possible by electricity."

Willie married Isabelle in 1969 and they have two children – a son and daughter – as well as four grandchildren. When he does finally decide it's time to retire, he is not likely to be bored. He is an enthusiastic gardener and is renovating an old house in Fife to be closer to his family.

Company news

Charity partnership reaches £350,000

EDF Energy has marked the first year of its charity partnership with Marie Curie Cancer Care by holding a Parliamentary reception.

In 12 months the energy company and its employees have raised more than £349,000 for Marie Curie, which exceeds its target figure by nearly £150,000. The reception was hosted by Michael McCann MP and attended by dozens of Parliamentarians, Marie Curie employees and members of staff from EDF Energy.

Marie Curie was selected as EDF Energy's three-year charity partner in May 2013 by an employee vote. The money raised enables Marie Curie to fund 18 nurses to care for terminally ill people for one year.

Science award for Cheltenham Festival links

EDF Energy and The Times Cheltenham Science Festival have won a prestigious award for 'Collaborative Action' by charity Business in the Community (BITC), as part of the 2014 Responsible Business Awards.

The energy firm and The Times Cheltenham Science Festival were praised for their 10-year long partnership focused on inspiring young people in science and engineering. Their collaborative education programme, which is delivered both at the Festival and in schools across the region engages with around 15,000 children each year.

Rex Mackrill, director of The Times Cheltenham Science Festival, said: "We are proud to work with EDF Energy as the Associate Title Partner for the Times Cheltenham Science Festival.

"One of the reasons why our partnership with EDF Energy is so successful is that we have the mutual ambition to inspire and enable people to engage with science."

Office for Nuclear Regulation approves Dungeness B's graphite limit

The Office for Nuclear Regulation has approved the limit of graphite weight loss at Dungeness B to 8%.

This is a small increase from the previous limit of 6.2% and refers to the amount of weight the graphite core is allowed to lose. Dungeness B has used the information from a continuing programme of monitoring, inspection and physical sampling of the graphite core to assess the state of the core.

This knowledge feeds in to modelling and analysis which give us the knowledge to allow us to safely increase the limit of weight loss within the core from 6.2% to 8%. As time goes on we will continue to collect data, build this into our models and calculations and ensure our safety margins are robust and appropriate.

Next local community meeting

The Local Community Liaison Council meeting will be held on 19 March 2015 at Torness power station.

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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.