

# Office for Nuclear Regulation (ONR)

## Site Report for Torness Power Station

**Report for period 1 October – 31 December 2021**

### **Foreword**

This report is issued as part of ONR's commitment to make information about inspection and regulatory activities relating to the above site available to the public. Reports are distributed to members for the Local Community Liaison Committee and are also available on the ONR website (<http://www.onr.org.uk/lc/>).

Site inspectors from ONR usually attend the Torness Local Community Liaison Committee meetings where these reports are presented and will respond to any questions raised there. Any person wishing to inquire about matters covered by this report should contact ONR.

## Table of Contents

1. Inspections .....	3
2. Routine Matters .....	4
3. Non-Routine Matters.....	5
4. Regulatory Activity .....	6
5. News from ONR.....	7
6. Contacts .....	7

# 1. Inspections

## 1.1. Dates of Inspection

The ONR site inspector carried out licence condition (LC) inspections on the following dates during the report period:

### **Torness**

12 – 13 October

18 November

14 – 15 December

In addition, our specialist inspectors were involved in interventions on the following dates during the report period:

17 – 18 November (Systems Based Inspection, Emergency Equipment Systems)

## 2. Routine Matters

### 2.1. Inspections

Inspections are undertaken as part of the process for monitoring compliance with:

- the conditions attached by ONR to the nuclear site licence granted under the Nuclear Installations Act 1965 (NIA65) (as amended);
- the Energy Act 2013
- the Health and Safety at Work Act 1974 (HSWA74); and
- regulations made under HSWA74, for example the Ionising Radiations Regulations 2017 (IRR17) and the Management of Health and Safety at Work Regulations 1999 (MHSWR99).

The inspections entail monitoring licensee's actions on the site in relation to incidents, operations, maintenance, projects, modifications, safety case changes and any other matters that may affect safety. The licensee is required to make and implement adequate arrangements under the conditions attached to the licence in order to ensure legal compliance. Inspections seek to judge both the adequacy of these arrangements and their implementation.

In this period, routine inspections at Torness covered the following:

- emergency Arrangements
- Incidents on the site
- Operating Rules
- Operating Instructions
- Training

Members of the public, who would like further information on ONR's inspection activities during the reporting period, can view site Intervention Reports at [www.onr.org.uk/intervention-records](http://www.onr.org.uk/intervention-records) on our website [www.onr.org.uk](http://www.onr.org.uk). Should you have any queries regarding our inspection activities, please email [contact@onr.gov.uk](mailto:contact@onr.gov.uk).

### 2.2. Other Work

#### **Make-up Shields Torness**

We attended meetings with the site and attendees from their central support organisation to discuss proposals for modifications to the make-up shields (MUS) on Reactor 1 and Reactor 2 that could potentially allow exchanges of control rods and fuel whilst the reactor is pressurised. These operations are currently embargoed and are undergoing EDF NGL safety case anomalies process.

A revised safety case will be required before the MUS can be operated at pressure. We have placed a regulatory hold point and will permission the revised safety case. Indications are that the safety case and associated modifications will not be complete until 2022.

### 3. Non-Routine Matters

Licensees are required to have arrangements to respond to non-routine matters and events. ONR inspectors judge the adequacy of the licensee's response, including actions taken to implement any necessary improvements.

Matters and events of particular note during the period were:

#### **Torness**

##### **Emergency Plan shortfall – 25 December 2021**

On 25th December there was a short notice absence identified due a rostered incident response team (IRT) member receiving a positive result on a COVID PCR test. This is usually addressed by calling out and arranging cover, however at very short notice the arranged cover was unable to attend site as they were categorised as an 'A' contact for a family member who tested positive. It was not possible to arrange cover at such short notice to cover the Christmas day shift.

##### **Reactor 1 CO<sub>2</sub> plant configuration issues – 06 November 2021**

On 6th November it was identified that there was no CO<sub>2</sub> flow path to low pressure (LP) CO<sub>2</sub> vaporiser 1. This was identified when attempting to top up the R2 vessel pressure during R2 off load depressurised (ODR) and control rod assembly (CRA) exchange programme. A LP ring main CO<sub>2</sub> segregation valve CO2-0067 was found in the shut position. This valve was closed on 4th November as part of R2 ODR pre-flight valve configuration checks.

Unavailability of LP CO<sub>2</sub> vaporiser 1 placed R1 in a 72 hour LCO condition as the zone 5 inspections meant LP CO<sub>2</sub> vaporisers 2 and 3 were isolated. This LCO was exited promptly when the configuration issue was identified. The 72 hour LCO had not been exceeded.

The CO<sub>2</sub> supplies were made available immediately by opening the LP CO<sub>2</sub> ring main segregation valve once the configuration issue was identified. LP CO<sub>2</sub> vaporiser 1 was made operable. Plant segregation is not required for R2 ODR operations. A CO<sub>2</sub> plant configuration controller has been appointed to provide additional oversight of CO<sub>2</sub> plant manoeuvres while we await the learning from this event.

## 4. Regulatory Activity

ONR may issue formal documents to ensure compliance with regulatory requirements. Under nuclear site licence conditions, ONR issues regulatory documents, which either permit an activity or require some form of action to be taken; these are usually collectively termed 'Licence Instruments' (LIs) but can take other forms. In addition, inspectors may take a range of enforcement actions, to include issuing an Enforcement Notice.

- No LIs, Enforcement Notices or Enforcement letters were issued during this period.

Reports detailing the above regulatory decisions can be found on the ONR website at <http://www.onr.org.uk/pars/>.

## 5. News from ONR

For the latest news and information from the Office for Nuclear Regulation, please read and subscribe to our regular email newsletter 'ONR News' at [www.onr.org.uk/onrnews](http://www.onr.org.uk/onrnews)

## 6. Contacts

Office for Nuclear Regulation  
Redgrave Court  
Merton Road  
Bootle  
Merseyside  
L20 7HS

website: [www.onr.org.uk](http://www.onr.org.uk)  
email: [Contact@onr.gov.uk](mailto:Contact@onr.gov.uk)

This document is issued by the Office for Nuclear Regulation (ONR). For further information about ONR, or to report inconsistencies or inaccuracies in this publication please visit <http://www.onr.org.uk/feedback.htm>.

© Office for Nuclear Regulation, 2022

If you wish to reuse this information visit [www.onr.org.uk/copyright.htm](http://www.onr.org.uk/copyright.htm) for details.  
Published 03/2022

For published documents, the electronic copy on the ONR website remains the most current publicly available version and copying or printing renders this document uncontrolled.