

Office for Nuclear Regulation (ONR)

Site Report for Capenhurst Works

Report for period 1 April – 30 June 2022

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 Urenco UK Limited Local Liaison Committee and are also available on the ONR website (<http://www.onr.org.uk/llic/>).

Site inspectors from ONR usually attend Urenco UK Limited Local 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.

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1. Inspections

1.1. Dates of Inspection

ONR Inspectors made inspections on the following dates during the report period 1 April to 30 June 2022:

- 30 March, 19-22 April, 18, 24-25 May, 14-17, 20, 22, 28-29 June 2022

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 etc 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 the 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 of Capenhurst Works covered the following:

- radioactive waste
- safeguards
- security.

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 on our website www.onr.org.uk. Should you have any queries regarding our inspection activities, please email contact@onr.gov.uk.

2.2. Other Work

Routine engagement has now resumed at the site without Covid restrictions and the site contingency arrangements at the Capenhurst Works to ensure continued operational safety and emergency response capability have been suspended with the possibility to re-instate them should it be required by the evolution of the pandemic.

The site Annual Regulatory Review of Safety, Security and the Environment took place on 26 April 2022. ONR concurred with the licensee's performance self-assessment presented to the regulators during the review.

Following some recent progress with the through-life management of risk for the legacy cylinders on site, ONR focus remains on the delivery of this work to ensure the site reduces risks to as low as reasonably practicable (ALARP). Moving forward ONR will engage with the project and wherever necessary monitor progress.

Routine regulatory engagement continues with Urenco ChemPlants (UCP), the operators of the Tails Management Facility (TMF), which continues with its active commissioning.

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.

During this period three minor events were reported by UNS to ONR. One entailed a contractor injury during a lifting operation and two related to unplanned low level radiation dose intakes that were below the legal dose limit during decommissioning work of the disused site incinerator. We are following up these events during our engagements with the site to ensure root causes are identified and appropriate and proportionate remedial action is taken to prevent a recurrence.

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.

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

6. Contacts

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