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| ONR Site Report  EDF Energy – Sizewell B |



ONR Site Report

EDF Energy - Sizewell B

Report for period: 1 July 2023 – 30 September 2023

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Approved by: ONR Head of Operating Reactors

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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 Sizewell SSG and are also available on the ONR website (<http://www.onr.org.uk/llc/>).

Site inspectors from ONR usually attend Sizewell SSG 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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# Inspections

## Date(s) of Inspection

The ONR site inspector made inspections on the following dates during the report period 1 July – 30 September:

* 4 – 6 July;
* 25 – 26 July;
* 26 – 28 September.

# Routine Matters

## 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);
* 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 Sizewell B covered the following:

* Staff training, qualifications and experience.

**Staff training, qualifications and experience**

The site inspector and a probabilistic safety assessment (PSA) specialist inspector carried out an intervention to consider the adequacy of training in a number of areas, including:

* Reactivity management.
* The site’s PSA tool, RiskWatcher.
* Aging and obsolescence management and as-found condition recording.

By examining documentation and speaking to a variety of operators, maintenance personnel and nuclear safety group staff the inspectors determined that:

* Training needs associated with reactivity management (including the need for ongoing or refresher training) have been documented, and that post holders have received the relevant training and have any necessary follow-up training scheduled.
* Training needs associated with the use of RiskWatcher were well identified, and the relevant training delivered, for shift managers and control room supervisors, and for nuclear safety group users. However, the inspectors did observe some shortfalls in the definition and recording of training for reactor operators and work week managers. In practice, those individuals had received appropriate training but the process for delivering that training was not formalised. The site inspector raised a regulatory issue for the licensee to address this shortfall.

• Training for aging and obsolescence management and as-found condition recording has been developed and is being delivered to relevant engineering and maintenance staff across the site.

**Extreme ambient temperature**

In addition to the planned compliance inspection, ONR undertook an inspection to assess the adequacy of the site’s arrangements for managing risks from extreme ambient temperature, evaluating (on a sample basis) whether the systems claimed in extreme ambient temperature safety cases at Sizewell B can deliver the safety functional requirements defined in the safety case.

By examining documentation and operating records, interviewing licensee staff and conducting a plant walkdown the inspection team concluded that the licensee:

* Is providing adequate training to its operators with respect to temperature forecasting arrangements and how to respond to future extreme ambient temperature events.
* Is managing the deployment of portable air conditioning units using an engineering change. This is judged a good practice.
* Has clearly defined limits and conditions of operation in the non-nuclear emergency handbook.
* Has operating instructions relevant to extreme ambient temperatures including for forecasting and to ensure compliance with the non-nuclear emergency handbook.
* Is adequately maintaining its plant claimed against extreme ambient temperatures.

# 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.

There were no such matters or events of significance during the period.

# 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.

# News from ONR

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

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