|  |
| --- |
|  |
| ONR Site Report  EDF – Hartlepool Power Station |



ONR Site Report

EDF – Hartlepool Power Station

**Report for period**: 1 April – 30 June 2024

**Authored by**: Site Inspector

**Approved by**: Superintending Inspector

**Issue No.:** 1

**Publication Date**: August 2024

**Record Ref. No**.: 2024/32969

Foreword

This report is issued as part of our 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 Hartlepool Local Community Liaison Committee and are also available on our website (<http://www.onr.org.uk/llc/>).

Our site inspectors usually attend Hartlepool 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 us via email at [contact@onr.gov.uk](mailto:contact@onr.gov.uk). .

Contents

[1. Inspections 4](#_Toc172561333)

[2. Routine matters 5](#_Toc172561334)

[3. Non-routine matters 9](#_Toc172561335)

[4. Regulatory activity 10](#_Toc172561336)

[5. News from ONR 11](#_Toc172561337)

[6. Contacts 11](#_Toc172561338)

# Inspections

## Dates of inspection

Our site inspector made inspections on the following dates during the report period 1 April to 30 June 2024:

* 30 April – 2 May
* 9 May
* 25-27 June

# 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); 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 Hartlepool power station covered the following:

* examination, maintenance, inspection and testing
* management of operations including control and supervision
* emergency preparedness
* incidents on the site

**Extreme Ambient Temperature and Seasonal Readiness**

This was a planned inspection of the implementation of operational arrangements for seasonal, severe weather, and marine impact preparations (“Seasonal Readiness”) to ensure that risks associated with seasonal hazards are being adequately managed. Seasonal readiness arrangements include routine and other preparations (e.g., defects and asset maintenance) intended to mitigate risks associated with predictable summer and winter conditions.   
  
This inspection followed a previous activity in June 2023. That inspection found that EDF NGL had identified enhancements to its seasonal readiness arrangements and was planning to implement these in future campaigns.

We rated two licence conditions during this inspection, LC24 and LC28. Both of these resulted in ‘Green’ ratings (no formal action). We considered that EDF NGL have approrpate arrangements in place to manage seasonal readiness and that these are broadly being implemented at Hartlepool power station. We also reviewed evidence that there are appropriate maintenance and inspection routines in place for systems relating to seasonal readiness. Some minor issues were identfied that are captured under a Level 4 regulatory issue that will be followed up as part of routine station oversight.

**LC7 – Incidents on site**

This was a planned inspection of the station’s arrangements for organisational learning, in particular managing the action close out from incident investigations.

The arrangements for action close out at Hartlepool have notably improved over the past two years, and meet regulatory expectations. In that period, the licensee has shown a positive response to previous observations presented by us with regard to the corrective action close out process.

We reviewed the licensees process for corrective action close out. We were satisfied that the process appropriately covers all aspects of corrective actions in line with our guidance. The licensee demonstrated that the action close out process is effective in tracking actions, and that appropriate scrutiny is applied to the action close out process by the review board. LC 7 was rated ‘Green’ (no formal action).

**LC11 – Emergency arrangements**

This was a planned inspection to review compliance with the required emergency arrangements. Based on the evidence sampled we were satisfied that there are no significant shortfalls in the governance and oversight of the licensee’s emergency arrangements. We therefore rated the inspection ‘Green’ (no formal action) against licence condition 11 – emergency arrangements. During the inspection we also took the opportunity to attend the station’s emergency arrangements review meeting. This followed the routine agenda set out in the company guidance. We were content that the meeting met the set objectives and provided an opportunity to appropriately plan the upcoming emergency excercises on site.

**Preliminary enquiries: demineralised water stocks**

The previous quarterly report noted that an enforcement letter had been issued to Hartlepool due to a failure to adequately manage demineralised water stocks on site. EDF responded to the enforcement letter on 28 June, prior to the due date of 30 June. We are content that EDF have produced a plan that will remedy the issue and have taken appropriate steps to reduce water losses and mitigate risk to water production on site. Prior to return to service of either reactor, we reviewed EDF’s interim justification for continued operation and scrutinised the commitments that were made and the actions identified in their internal investigation. We will hold EDF to account on all the commitments and investigation actions to ensure they are completed adequately and in a timely manner.

Members of the public, who would like further information on our 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).

Should you have any queries regarding our inspection activities, please email [contact@onr.gov.uk](mailto:contact@onr.gov.uk).

## Other work

During the period, the site inspector held routine meetings with station staff to monitor the performance of the site by:

* Reviewing the current plant status and all open regulatory issues associated with Hartlepool Power Station with the Technical and Safety Support Manager.
* Attendance at the station Local Community Liason Committee.
* Meeting on a weekly basis with the site-based Independent Nuclear Assurance team to ensure the internal regulator function remains effective and verifying information provided by the station.

# Non-routine matters

Licensees are required to have arrangements to respond to non-routine matters and events. Our 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

We may issue formal documents to ensure compliance with regulatory requirements. Under nuclear site licence conditions, we issue 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 our website at <http://www.onr.org.uk/pars/>.

# News from ONR

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

# 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 ONR. For further information about us, or to report inconsistencies or inaccuracies in this publication please [email](file:///C:\Users\PWynne\Downloads\email) [contact@onr.gov.uk](file:///C:\Users\JSpittlehouse\AppData\Local\Microsoft\Windows\INetCache\Content.Outlook\EP5MD2K9\contact@onr.gov.uk).

If you wish to reuse this information visit https://www.onr.org.uk/access-to-information/copyright/ for details.

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