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| ONR Site Report  EDF - Torness Power Station |



ONR Site Report

EDF - Torness Power Station

**Report for period**: 1 July – 30 September 2024

**Authored by**: Lead Site Inspector

**Approved by**: Superintending Inspector

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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 Torness site stakeholder group and are also available on the ONR website (<https://www.onr.org.uk/publications/regulatory-reports/site-specific-reports/llcssg-reports/>).

Site inspectors from ONR usually attend Torness site 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 2024 – 30 September 2024:

18 – 19 September

19 – 20 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); 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 Torness power station covered the following:

* Training
* Safety mechanisms,devices and circuits
* Examination, inspection, maintenance and testing

Overall the findings from the compliance inspections were positive with no significant shortfalls. A number of observations were made during the inspections where advice was provided to station.

There were no findings from the inspections that could significantly undermine nuclear safety.

Members of the public, who would like further information on ONR’s inspection activities during the reporting period, can view site Inspection 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).

## Other work

Non-compliances were identified during an inspection in May 2023 and a subsequent enforcement letter was issued by us to Torness in July 2023 to implement fire safety improvements in the admin, stores and workshop areas of site.

Timescales for completion of the improvement work continued to slip and due to our loss of confidence in the timely delivery of the fire safety improvements a further enforcement letter was issued to Torness in July 2024. This enforcement letter sought assurance that the remaining improvements will be completed within the timescales of the fire safety project delivery programme. We have escalated the associated regulatory issue to level 2 ensuring senior management oversight.

We continue to track progress of the fire safety improvements through targeted interventions and will hold senior management to account ensuring the timely implementation of the fire safety improvements in the admin, stores and workshop areas of Torness power station.

# 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:

**July 2024 -** Reactor 1 bypass gas plant (BPGP) isolation valves tripped shut on CO2-in-air panel high/fault alarm. With no reactor gas drying, gas moisture levels began to rise. Technical specification condition was entered requiring moistures to be reduced below the action level within 24 hours or carry out a controlled unit shutdown around three hours later. After confirming no genuine CO2-in-air hazard existed in the BPGP, and claiming alternative CO2-in-air instruments for technical specification compliance, the BPGP isolating valves were reopened.

The cause of the CO2-in-air panel fault was investigated. The associated analyser had become waterlogged and inoperable due to a significant escape of treated water from the reserve feed tanks through an incorrectly-configured open valve in the BPGP break tank room, once identified, the valve was closed preventing any further leakage.

Torness are carrying out an internal investigation and the findings will be shared with our site inspector.

**July 2024 -** An anomaly was been identified with the emergency CO2 cooling flowrate provided by the fuelling machine gas services trolley. The flowrate provided by the gas services trolley is less than that which has been assumed in the offload depressurised refuelling (ODR) cooling assessments for handling fuel at 18kW stringer decay heat.

Torness entered their safety case anomalies process, with the conclusion being that an interim justification for continued operations (IJFCO) was require to continue operations with a full justification for continued operations (JFCO) to be completed for future operations. The IJFCO was completed on 8 July 2024, enabling the reactor 2 ODR programme currently in progress to proceed with the formal JCO to be completed in October 2024 to allow continued operations for future ODR.

# 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.

**Table 1: Licence Instruments and enforcement notices issued by ONR during this period**

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Date | Type | Reference | Description |
|  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |
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Reports detailing the above regulatory decisions can be found on the ONR website at https://www.onr.org.uk/publications/regulatory-reports/site-specific-reports/project-assessment-reports/.

# News from ONR

For the latest news and information from ONR, please read and subscribe to our regular email newsletter ‘ONR News’ at <https://www.onr.org.uk/news/newsletter/>.

# Contacts

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# References

**There are no sources in the current document.**