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| ONR Site Report  EDF -Heysham Power Stations |



ONR Site Report

EDF - Heysham Power Stations

**Report for period**: 01 October – 31 December 2024

**Authored by**: Nominated Site Inspector - Heysham 1

**Approved by**: Joint Head of Safety Regulation - Operating Reactors

**Issue:** 0

**Published**: Febuary 2025

**Record reference**: 2025/1851

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 Heysham Local Community Liaison Committee (LCLC) 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 Heysham LCLC 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 October to 31 December 2024:

**Heysham 1**

11, 30 October   
4, 5, 7, 14 November   
1, 2, 3, 10, 11 December

**Heysham 2**

1, 2, 14, 15, 30 October

6, 13-14 November

3, 4, 5 December

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

**Heysham 1**

4, 5, 7 November   
1 December

**Heysham 2**

1, 2, 14, 15 October

5 December

# 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 Heysham covered the following:

**Heysham 1**

* Safe and secure conduct of operations during the reactor 2 refuelling outage: the inspection was a joint safety and security inspection conducted unannounced and out of hours. We inspected against licence conditions LC 11 (emergency arrangements), LC 24 (operating instructions) and LC 26 (control and supervision of operations). Overall, the site's arrangements and their implementation were found to be in line with regulatory expectations with respect to safety and security. Throughout the inspection, areas of good practice and opportunities for improvement observed were shared with site. These were all rated GREEN.
* Turbine protection safety systems-based inspection (SBI): the purpose of this inspection was to examine the implementation of the safety case in relation to turbine protection systems (including safe and reliable operation of items that could put a demand on protection systems). Through examination of the systems and their associated sub-systems, we performed compliance inspections against licence conditions LC 10 (training), LC 23 (operating rules), LC 24 (operating instructions), LC 27 (safety mechanisms, devices and circuits) and LC 28 (examination, inspection, maintenance and testing). These were all rated GREEN.

**Heysham 2**

* Reactivity control and safety systems SBI: this SBI focused on three distinct elements: control rod build including quality controls, reactor control and protection systems, and secondary shutdown systems. The first two elements were inspected last quarter; the final element was inspected this quarter. As no significant issues were found or raised, a GREEN rating was given for this inspection against LC 10, LC 23, LC 24, LC 27 and LC 28. However, there were a few minor shortfalls observed against regulatory expectations in relation to training records and procedural use and adherence, which the station is addressing.
* Chief Nuclear Inspector’s (CNI) themed inspection on climate change: this inspection formed one of five site-based inspections undertaken as part of the CNI themed inspection on climate change.

The CNI themed inspection on climate change sought assurance that the nuclear industry within Great Britain:

* Understands and has taken account of recent climate change projections in relevant safety cases and hazard definitions;
* Is able to demonstrate that activities are and will remain safe and secure in the future subject to the reasonably foreseeable effects of climate change; and
* Has effective arrangements to monitor and review climate change information to determine if additional measures are needed to ensure that activities remain protected in the future.

The inspection considered the licensee’s approach to climate change. This included sampling how the licensee incorporates climate change for specific external hazards; understanding how key structures, systems and components may be impacted by climate change; mitigation measures planned or implemented by the licensee; and future work.

This was a themed inspection to understand how the nuclear industry is managing climate change and to identify learning. It was not a licence condition compliance inspection and no ratings were provided against licence conditions. We formed a judgement on whether our regulatory expectations in relation to climate change had been met; been partially met and/or there are plans in place to ensure that they are met; or not been met and there are no current plans in place to ensure that they are met.

Learning identified as part of this, and the other site-based inspections will feed into the outputs of our CNI themed inspection on climate change and will be included within our final summary report, which will be published on our website.

Based on the evidence sampled, we judged that the licensee partially meets our expectations in relation to climate change, with plans in place to ensure that they are met in future.

* Lifting Operations and Lifting Equipment Regulations 1998 (LOLER) inspection: this inspection sampled how the licensee is manging risks associated with lifting operations and use of lifting equipment (including accessories) at site, ensuring their compliance with the regulations. Particular focus was on the change EDF Nuclear Generation Limited (NGL) had made to their company specification in relation to the categorisation of lifting operations. The site was able to demonstrate they understood what met the requirement for an intermediate lift, how intermediate lifts are identified, and what they required. Through sampling lifting equipment on site, the team were able to demonstrate that they had appropriate procedures in place to ensure that only equipment that had been subject to thorough examination could be used. These processes also only allowed competent people access to the lifting stores. Deficiencies were observed in one of the contractors’ lifting equipment stores that was immediately addressed by the site. As no significant issues were found or raised, a GREEN rating was given for this inspection against LOLER.

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: <https://www.onr.org.uk/publications/publication-search/?type=inspectionRecordPublication>.

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

**Both Sites**

In this period, other routine matters at Heysham stations covered the following:

* handover between nominated site inspectors and site familiarisation
* regulatory issue progress (both sites)
* routine event follow-ups including any conventional health and safety events (both sites)
* meeting with safety reps (both sites)
* daily plant status, refuelling preparations and progress (both sites)
* oversight of graphite inspection data (both sites)
* plant walkdowns (both sites)
* planning for annual level 1 emergency demonstration exercise (both sites)
* annual review of safety, security, safeguards and environment (ARoSSSE) (both sites)
* observation of RMT exercises from a security and transport point of view.

## Other work

* We held periodic meetings with safety representatives to support their function of representing employees and receiving information on matters affecting their health, safety and welfare at work.

# 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 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 <https://www.onr.org.uk/news/newsletter/>.

# Contacts

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