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| ONR site report  Nuclear Restoration Services – Chapelcross |



ONR site report

Nuclear Restoration Services - Chapelcross

**Report for period**: 1 January – 31 March 2025

**Authored by**: Nominated Site Inspector

**Approved by**: Head of Regulation Decommissioning, Fuel and Waste

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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 Chapelcross Site Stakeholder Group and are also available on our website: [www.onr.org.uk/publications/regulatory-reports/site-specific-reports/llcssg-reports](http://www.onr.org.uk/publications/regulatory-reports/site-specific-reports/llcssg-reports).

Our site inspectors usually attend Chapelcross Site Stakeholder Group 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).

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# Inspections

## Date(s) of inspection

Our site inspector made inspections on the following dates during the report period 1 January – 31 March 2025:

26-27 February 2025

The ONR Security inspector inspected the site on the following date:

26 February 2025

# 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 Chapelcross covered the following:

* Aging management inspection considering the examination, maintenance, inspection and testing performed on the reactor buildings and pond structure; and
* Cyber security.

Members of the public who would like further information on our inspection activities during the reporting period can view site inspection records on our website: [www.onr.org.uk/publications/regulatory-reports/site-specific-reports/inspection-records](http://www.onr.org.uk/publications/regulatory-reports/site-specific-reports/inspection-records).

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

Other routine matters discussed during this period included:

* Impact of Storm Eowyn on Chapelcross.

## Other work

Throughout this reporting period, ONR’s nominated site safety inspector held regular meetings with Chapelcross leadership team representatives to maintain situational awareness of matters related to nuclear safety. No significant issues were raised with ONR.

The site inspector held a periodic meeting 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. Our 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:

* On the 14 January 2025, an operator injured their shoulder after slipping on a walkway. This resulted in the operator being off work for greater than 7 days. Consequently, this was classed as an incident reportable under the Reporting of Injuries, Diseases and Dangerous Occurrences Regulations (RIDDOR). I have held a follow up meeting with site representatives and I am content with the actions being taken by the licensee to make required improvements.
* On the 11 February 2025, a contractor employee was accessing the Heat Exchangers (HEX) Number 5 Pump House Roof to construct a scaffold supporting future work. The employee stood on a surface which gave way under his foot exposing a hole into the pump house below. No injury occurred to the individual. I am continuing enquiries into the event to determine if further regulatory action is required

# 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 but can take other forms. In addition, inspectors may take a range of enforcement actions, to include issuing an enforcement notice.

The following licence instruments, enforcement notices and enforcement letters have been issued during the period:

ONR has withdrawn several legacy specifications from Chapelcross, to reduce regulatory burden on the licensee. The legacy specifications are from when the plant was operational and provide no additional safety benefit for Chapelcross which is well advanced into its decommissioning life cycle phase. These are captured in Table 1.

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

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Date | Type | Reference | Description |
| 09/01/25 | Letter | ONR-SDFW-NRS-90065N | Withdrawal of nuclear maintenance schedule preface approvals & legacy licence condition specifications |
| 06/11/24 | Letter | ONRW-2019369590-14044 | Withdrawal of approval for amended emergency arrangements |

Reports detailing the above regulatory decisions can be found on our website: [www.onr.org.uk/publications/regulatory-reports/site-specific-reports/project-assessment-reports](http://www.onr.org.uk/publications/regulatory-reports/site-specific-reports/project-assessment-reports).

# News from ONR

For the latest updates and information on our work, please subscribe to our regular email newsletter, ONR News, at [www.onr.org.uk/news/newsletter](https://www.onr.org.uk/news/newsletter/).

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