

Nuclear Directorate

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Date: 18 May 2010

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Unique No. DNB71205N

Our Ref: 5.1.3.1312. 2010/192133

Director and HM Chief Inspector  
Dr M W Weightman

**For the attention of Mr K Hartley, TSSM**

Dear Sir,

**DUNGENESS B POWER STATION  
HMNII INSPECTOR'S QUARTERLY SSG REPORT**

Please find enclosed a copy of my Quarterly Report for the period 1 January 2010 to 31 March 2010. I should be grateful if you would arrange for it to be copied and sent to all full members of the Dungeness Site Stakeholder Group (SSG) and to Mr F Bailey, site Trades Unions Safety Representative.

In keeping with HSE practice, a copy of the report will be placed on the HSE web site, the address of which is provided in the report.

If you require clarification of the contents of this letter, or should you wish to discuss it further, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Yours faithfully

*Vince Green*

**Dr V R Green**  
HM Principal Inspector of Nuclear Installations

Copies

Mr F Bailey  
Trades Unions Safety Representative  
Dungeness B Power Station  
Romney Marsh  
KENT  
TN29 9PX

Mr J Sandford  
TRIM Ref: 5.1.3.1312. 2010/192133  
Outgoing Letters: 5.1.3.1330. (Alternatively within)



**HM NUCLEAR INSTALLATIONS INSPECTORATE**

**BRITISH ENERGY GENERATION LTD - DUNGENESS B POWER STATION**

**SITE STAKEHOLDER GROUP REPORT**

**QUARTERLY REPORT FOR 1 JANUARY 2010  
TO 31 MARCH 2010**

**FOREWORD**

This report is issued as part of the Health and Safety Executive's commitment to make information about inspection and regulatory activities relating to the above site available to the public. It is for distribution to members of the Dungeness Site Stakeholder Group (SSG) and covers activities associated with the regulation of safety at Dungeness B Power Station. These reports are distributed quarterly and are also available on the HSE's web site at <http://www.hse.gov.uk/nuclear/llc/index.htm>. Site inspectors of HM Nuclear Installations Inspectorate (HMNII) usually attend SSG meetings and will respond to questions raised there by members of the SSG. Any other person wishing to enquire about matters covered by this report may contact the HSE's Nuclear Directorate on 0151-951-3484/3290.

**Nuclear Directorate  
Health and Safety Executive  
Redgrave Court  
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Merseyside  
L20 7HS**

## **INSPECTIONS**

The Nuclear Installations Inspectorate (HMNII) Site Inspector and other inspectors visited Dungeness B on the following dates during the quarter covered by this report:

19, 20, 21, 25, 26, 27, 28 January  
01, 02, 03, 04, 22, 23, 24, 25 March

## **ROUTINE MATTERS**

Inspections are undertaken at site as part of the process for monitoring compliance with:

- (i) The conditions attached by HSE/HMNII to the nuclear site licence;
- (ii) The Health and Safety at Work etc Act (HSWA) 1974 and
- (iii) Regulations made under the HSWA for example the Ionising Radiations Regulations 1999 and the Management of Health and Safety at Work Regulations 1999.

This entails monitoring licensee's actions on the site in relation to incidents, operations, maintenance, projects, modifications, safety case changes and any other matters which may affect safety. The licensees are 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 on site covered:

Incidents on the site

Training

Emergency arrangements

Duly authorised and other suitably qualified and experienced persons

Operating rules

Periodic review

Control and supervision of operations

Examination, inspection, maintenance and testing

## **NON-ROUTINE MATTERS**

Licensees are required to have arrangements to respond to non-routine matters and incidents. HMNII inspectors judge the adequacy of the licensee's response including actions taken to implement any necessary improvements. As part of their planned inspection site inspectors examine safety-related incidents that have occurred and the Licensee's response to them. There was one incident of note during the current period, the discovery by the licensee of cables in both reactors that were insufficiently protected against hot gas release, challenging safety case requirements. This discovery was made during significant safety assessment and safety improvement work undertaken by the licensee in response to the fire in the boiler annexe of Reactor 22 late on 23 November 2009.

During the current period HMNII completed its investigation of the Reactor 22 fire and ensured that HMNII's requirements related to both the fire and the insufficiently protected cables incidents were met prior to the re-start of Reactor 22. HMNII's requirements relating to these incidents will be met prior to the re-start of Reactor 21 following its period shutdown. HMNII is continuing to investigate the insufficiently protected cables incident, to decide if further enforcement action is required to secure improvements to nuclear safety. The Reactor 22 fire and the discovery of insufficiently protected cables incidents is reported as a single item in the HMNII first quarter 2010 statement of nuclear incidents at nuclear installations (<http://www.hse.gov.uk/nuclear/quarterly-stat/2010-1.htm>).

It was noted in the SSG report for the quarter 1 July 2009 to 30 September 2009 that HMNII had commenced a formal investigation on 13 July 2009 into an incident involving a fuel plug unit that failed to bumplatch and a subsequent decision to inject foam. This investigation continued during the reporting quarter.

## **REGULATORY ACTIVITY**

Under Health and Safety legislation HMNII Site Inspectors, and other HSE Inspectors, may issue formal documents to ensure compliance with regulatory requirements. Under nuclear site licence conditions HSE/HMNII issues regulatory documents, which either permission an activity or requires some form of action to be taken; these are collectively termed Licence Instruments (LI). In addition, inspectors may issue enforcement notices to secure improvements to safety.

There was one Licence Instrument issued to the licensee during the quarter:-

- LI 529 - Approval of an amendment to Dungeness B Nuclear Safety Requirement 4, granted on 13 January 2010.

No enforcement Notices were issued to Dungeness B during the reporting quarter.

## **Formation of the Office for Nuclear Regulation - An Update**

Given the proximity to a general election, Ministers have decided not to lay the Legislation (known as The LRO), required to establish the Office for Nuclear Regulation, in this Parliamentary session. This decision has been made to ensure that full and effective parliamentary scrutiny can take place.

Government has recently published for information the legislative documents and the results of the consultation undertaken by the Department for Work and Pensions and the Department of Energy and Climate Change in Summer 2009. The consultation showed broad support from a wide range of organisations. The documents can be accessed at:

[http://www.decc.gov.uk/en/content/cms/what\\_we\\_do/uk\\_supply/energy\\_mix/nuclear/new/reg\\_reform/reg\\_reform.aspx](http://www.decc.gov.uk/en/content/cms/what_we_do/uk_supply/energy_mix/nuclear/new/reg_reform/reg_reform.aspx)

[http://www.decc.gov.uk/en/content/cms/news/pn10\\_048/pn10\\_048.aspx](http://www.decc.gov.uk/en/content/cms/news/pn10_048/pn10_048.aspx)

The Transition Programme (the work to establish the new organisation) is largely complete and will be placed 'on hold' until the point at which the LRO is approved.

The planning assumption for vesting date of the new organisation remains 1 April 2011 subject to the LRO passing through the parliamentary process. The next steps and revised timetable relating to the LRO will in due course be further developed.

In the meantime the work to transform ND into the world leading nuclear regulator fit for future challenges, that we aspire to be, continues with the same drive and determination.

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