

Health and Safety Executive Board		Paper No: HSE/12/82	
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<b>Chair of the Office for Nuclear Regulation Report to the HSE Board</b>			

## Summary

### Finance

1. As a result of ONR's mid-year financial review, the revised budget will be presented to the ONR Board for its consideration and approval at its October meeting.

### Resources

2. External advertising for the recruitment of Nuclear Safety inspectors via the HSE and civil service jobs websites has been re-launched. A wider external media advertising campaign targeted at specialist journals and general media is also planned. This was originally due to commence at the end of October 2012 but is currently awaiting expenditure approval from DWP. It is likely that advertising will be put on hold until January 2013, avoiding low interest levels normally seen in December.
3. Progress is being made with plans to develop new recruitment streams to bring in a small number of nuclear graduates early in their careers, as opposed to directly from university. The recruitment streams focus on two different types of role: technicians and nuclear associates, the latter with potential for progression to Nuclear Safety specialists.
4. A review of ONR's Performance and Potential Grid has been carried out, with a particular focus on succession planning across Nuclear Safety staff. It was agreed to repeat the assessments at mid-year stage and review/moderate with Programme Directors in December. ONR will now look to implement the Performance and Potential Grid across all areas of ONR by April 2013.

### Openness and transparency

5. I recently attended an introductory meeting with the new Secretary of State for Energy and Climate Change, along with ONR's Chief Nuclear Inspector (CNI) and Chief Operating Officer (COO). In preparation for the meeting, ONR was asked to provide the Minister with assurance on how well industry is complying with regulatory requirements; ONR's view of any areas of concern; our plans to address them; and, the progress we are making in doing so. Significant effort went into ensuring ONR demonstrated both regulatory and administrative competence to the new Minister by delivering to time and quality.
6. ONR continues to deliver on its commitment to be open and transparent by making its regulatory decisions freely available. Within the period, 11 executive summaries of Intervention Reports (IRs) and 21 executive summaries of Project Assessment Reports (PARs) were published online.

7. The previously reported Hinkley Community Engagement Forum was held in Bridgewater on 26 September, to enable communities neighbouring Hinkley A and B to learn about the existing sites as well as the proposed Hinkley Point C site. The forum was attended by 50 people, and generated positive feedback. Virtually two-thirds of the attendees felt better informed as a result of attending.

## **International Work**

8. The project to report on the implementation of the recommendations from the Chief Inspector's Reports on Fukushima, remains on target for publication in late October / early November. Some work arising from the report will be implemented over the medium and longer term and will be embedded into routine regulation undertaken by the programmes. The Chief Nuclear Inspector (CNI) briefed the Secretary of State for Energy and Climate Change on the work undertaken by ONR and the licensees at the introductory meeting held on 16 October.
9. Further to the Japanese parliament's establishment of a new independent Nuclear Regulation Authority, ONR took a central role in the first UK-Japan Nuclear Dialogue. This will assist Japan's new regulatory authority in establishing standards to support safety and public confidence through the sharing of lessons learned from Fukushima. The next Nuclear Dialogue is scheduled to take place in London in October 2013.
10. The CNI met the Director General of the IAEA during his visit to London on 16/17 October. They discussed various international and IAEA issues including: the Japanese situation; European Stress Tests; national nuclear regulatory bodies; and ONR's approach to regulatory nuclear new build.
11. The International Atomic Energy Authority (IAEA) Integrated Regulatory Review Service (IRRS) is a peer-review service conducted by a team of international experts that assists Member States to enhance the performance of their national nuclear regulatory bodies. Previous IRRS missions to the UK have taken place in 2006 and 2009 and the 3<sup>rd</sup> IRRS mission is scheduled for 2013. ONR recognises the IRRS mission presents the opportunity to further re-enforce ONR's international credibility and has made good early progress in preparing for it. A plan of work is already in place with all the roles and responsibilities for those involved fully defined.
12. The UK's Austrian Ambassador gave a speech to the International Atomic Energy Authority (IAEA) General Conference, which praised ONR's openness and transparency work. The address also focused on ONR's move to an outcome-based approach on its regulation of security at nuclear sites and referred to the IAEA International Physical Protection Advisory Service (IPPAS) mission, which found UK civil nuclear security "robust and effective".
13. Additionally, ONR specialists visited the US Department of Energy (DOE). The visit was positive, with discussions focussed on developing a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) as well as allowing intelligence gathering on the US experience of liquid metal reactor decommissioning.

## **Stakeholder Engagement**

14. The Nuclear Decommissioning Authority (NDA) requested ONR's involvement in the development of options for a national plutonium strategy. Active engagement is taking place and discussions with NDA are scheduled for October to determine what this means for ONR. Work will also be progressed with NDA and Magnox on the current Magnox reactor decommissioning strategy, with a joint workshop scheduled for October.

15. ONR confirmed its support for the NDA's proposed strategy for transporting various radioactive materials for consolidation at Sellafield. The strategy will be submitted by the Department of Energy and Climate Change (DECC) to the National Security Council (Nuclear) for consideration at its October meeting. The innovative, multi-disciplinary approach ONR has adopted in facilitating this work has been welcomed by licensees, the NDA and DECC and will be replicated for future ONR projects.
16. ONR continues to work with Sellafield, the NDA and the Environment Agency (EA) to finalise criteria against which Sellafield's site performance can be assessed. The initial assessment will be made at the Annual Review of Safety (ARoS) in December 2012.
17. As a means of sharing learning about safety across the nuclear industry, ONR held a two-day seminar on internal hazards that was attended by more than 80 specialists from across industry.
18. Wendy Barnes, the Chief Operating Officer at DECC, visited ONR recently. The visit was very positive and Wendy expressed her appreciation of the wide-ranging work that ONR is delivering particularly in relation to the ONR Change programme.
19. A very successful SCS workshop took place with DECC in early October 2012. It provided an opportunity to mutually identify and address those issues that were preventing effective relationship working both now and for the future. An action plan was agreed, which both organisations are fully committed to take forward.
20. The Board may also wish to note the visit of Chris Hayes, DWP's Labour Market and Conditionality Director and responsible for HSE/ONR sponsorship, to Sellafield where he received a briefing of ONR's work on the site.

### **ONR Change Programme**

21. The ONR Change Champions met the ONR Board during September to discuss their work and its importance to ONR. The event was well received and was followed by a similar session for staff in ONR's Cheltenham office and two further events in Redgrave Court. This provided staff with the opportunity to engage first-hand with the Change Champions and understand the reasons for change and its impact on them.
22. The next step for the ONR Change Programme is for the ONR Change Champions to scope out the resources needed for implementation. All the change initiatives outwith regulatory "business as usual" will then be amalgamated into a programme of work. Once agreed, the programme of work will be presented to the ONR Board in November.
23. The second Gate Review for the new ONR Operating Model was successfully completed on 8 October recording real progress with implementation, whilst noting some aspects of the programme were behind the original schedule. The review team agreed it was acceptable to pass through the gate, recording that the mitigating actions for the delayed aspects of the programme were not "showstoppers" but needed to be completed as soon as possible. The target date for "Go-Live" remains as 1 April 2013.
24. To assist in the development of solutions to issues raised via the feedback and briefing sessions ONR has held on the new ONR Operating Model, a pool of eleven staff from across the programmes has been established. They will develop solutions to issues and communicate the results across ONR. Programme Directors have agreed the allocation of this resource between now and the end of March 2013.

25. Work remains on-track to deliver arrangements to manage work scopes, priorities and resources by the end of October, which will be subsequently refined into a more sophisticated version for use in the 2013/14 reporting year. The deliverable of a standardised ONR risk register has been met and work to establish a risk panel that provides oversight of risk management in ONR is already underway. In addition, the development of performance “dashboards” is being further refined in conjunction with Programme Directors.

### **Legislative Change**

26. ➔➡

### **Security**

27. ➔➡

### **Operational Delivery**

28. All programmes continue to report good progress against the delivery Operating Plan work. Significant progress also continues to be made on the number of actual to planned inspections with all programmes exceeding the pro-rata annual target of 80%.
29. A similar picture exists for the percentage of Intervention Reports (IRs) completed to time. Performance across the programmes is at circa 80% for Quarter 2, which is a significant improvement on the Quarter 1 figure of 52%. Programmes report that the measures put in place to address the late completion of IRs continue to gain traction and will positively impact on future performance.
30. A further 5 Generic Design Acceptance (GDA) issues were closed out during September. This means 9 of the 31 issues originally identified by ONR and EA are now closed. The successful delivery of a Design Acceptance Confirmation (DAC) decision by December 2012 still remains probable, however constant attention from all parties is needed to achieve this.