



Health and Safety
Executive



Environment
Agency

Nuclear Site Licensing – UK Regulatory Framework

Dave Watson

Nuclear Directorate

Potential Operators Seminar, Aintree 26 February 2008



Health and Safety
Executive



Environment
Agency

Who we are

- Health & Safety Executive (~ 4000 staff)
 - Regulate all major industries
 - All Great Britain
- Nuclear Directorate (~300 staff)
 - Nuclear Installations Inspectorate NII
 - Office for Civil Nuclear Security (OCNS)
 - UK Safeguards Office

Safety Law - Health & Safety General

- Health & Safety at Work Act 1974
 - Set up HSE
 - Covers all work activities in GB
 - Reduce risk to workers and public so far as is reasonably practicable (SFAIRP = ALARP)
 - Duties on persons who design, manufacture, supply, install articles for use at work to ensure, SFAIRP, they are safe (design, construction, testing, information, research, installation)

The Law – Nuclear Specific

- UK's licensing regime in place for 48 years
- Nuclear Installations Act 1965 (NIA65)
 - Licensing of nuclear sites
 - Controls on enrichment of U and extraction of Pu
 - Empowers HSE to Grant Licences and attach Conditions
 - Financial liability cover

The Nuclear Site Licence

- Granted by HSE for indefinite period ie from Construction to eventual site clearance
- Not transferable
- Corporate body only
- To de-licence need to demonstrate 'no danger'



Health and Safety
Executive



Environment
Agency

Licence Conditions

- HSE attach conditions to the licence
- Standard set of 36 Conditions
 - Training, Maintenance, Operating Rules, Event reporting, etc
 - Mostly non-prescriptive
 - “Make and implement adequate arrangements”



Health and Safety
Executive



Environment
Agency

ALARP

- HSWA 1974 – reduce risk to workers and the public
SFAIRP
- In general we look for the licensee to answer the questions “what more could you do?” and to justify “why can’t you do it?”
- Balance between risk & the sacrifice involved in averting that risk.
- Licensee needs to show that additional sacrifice is grossly disproportionate (higher) to the risk.
- ALARP process can be deemed to have taken place at the “standards, codes of practice level) – Relevant Good Practice

ALARP Guidance

- ND guide on ALARP
http://www.hse.gov.uk/foi/internalops/nsd/tech_asst_guides/tast005.pdf
- Six HSE guides: 1. Principles and Guidelines, 2. Role of Good Practice, 3. ALARP in Design, 4. Principles of CBA 5. CBA assessment guide, 6. ALARP at a Glance
<http://www.hse.gov.uk/risk/theory/alarp.htm>