

Site Stakeholder Group Report

Peter Evans, Hinkley Point B Station Director
Friday 25 June 2021



EDF Energy Nuclear Generation Limited
Hinkley Point B Power Station
Near Bridgwater, Somerset, TA5 1UD

T: +44 (0)1278 654600
F: +44 (0)1278 654610
www.edfenergy.com

Registered office: Barnett Way, Barnwood
Gloucester, GL4 3RS. Registered in England
and Wales number 3076445.

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1. Safety and station issues



On behalf of the team at Hinkley Point B, thank you for giving me the opportunity to present my report and operational update.

Before I do so, I wanted to share some personal news with you. After much considered thought and deliberation, I have decided to retire at the end of this year. I have been at Hinkley Point B for 11 years and with the company for 44 years. I have enjoyed every single minute. Even though I will certainly miss station life, I have no plans to move out of the area when I do retire. The station is currently moving through the recruitment and selection process to find my successor, and as soon as an appointment is made I will, of course, let you know.

Last year's excellent safety performance has continued into 2021, and I am pleased to report we have not suffered any top tier safety events this year. It has now been over fourteen years since the station's last nuclear reportable event and twelve years since the last environmental event. This fleet leading performance is comparable to some of the best performing nuclear power plants in the world. In terms of industrial safety, it has now been five years since the station's last lost time incident to a member of staff, and over one year since the last lost time incident to a contract partner. Since our last meeting, there have been three minor first aid injuries at the site, all of a very minor nature.

At the time of writing, I am pleased to report we have both units online and generating at nominal full load. Following extended shutdowns on both reactors, which we have discussed in detail at previous SSG meetings, the Office for Nuclear Regulation (ONR) approved our graphite safety case in March, giving consent for both reactors to start up. Reactor 3 returned to service on 22 March, and reactor 4 returned to service on 11 April. Since then both reactors have operated at nominal full load. Safety was, as always, our top priority throughout this extended double reactor outage, and we did not have any significant nuclear safety events, environmental events or TRIR (Total Recordable Incident Rate) injuries. The entire scope of work was also delivered during the COVID-19 Pandemic and associated lockdown restrictions. This provided us with significant additional challenges to manage in order to keep the workforce safe and to reduce the risks for the potential of workplace transmission of the virus. The station's strong performance during this unprecedented time was achieved through the dedicated effort, support and engagement from the staff and contract partners working at the site (*Team Hinkley*) and our corporate colleagues, and I would like to pay tribute and thank them for their continued and dedicated support.

Station output for the period between 16 February 2021 to 13 June 2021 was 1.597 TWh (one terawatt equals 1,000,000 megawatts: one terawatt-hour represents one hour of electricity consumption at a constant rate of 1TWh).

As previously reported, Hinkley Point B will move into the defueling stage of its life no later than 15 July 2022. This means after completing routine graphite inspections on both reactors later this year, we plan to return the units back to service for one final six-month run. This signifies the generation end point for the power station after more than 45 years of quietly powering the nation with low carbon electricity. We are preparing the site for defueling activities to commence once the units have been shutdown for the final time, and we are doing everything we can to ensure we have a smooth transition into the next

stage of the power station's operational life cycle. We are continually operating with defueling and decommissioning in mind, and one example of this is during our most recent refuelling campaigns, we loaded lower enrichment fuel into the outer channels of the reactors. We are continuing to work closely and engage with our staff and contract partners about our defueling plans and the future. We are also working towards the completion of a revised agreement on defueling with Government and I hope to update you on the details soon. Inevitably, there is some sadness at the site and it is recognised there is much change to come at Hinkley Point B over the coming months. However, as I have said before, this is a moment for us to celebrate what we have achieved, and we must be proud of our history. Mike Davies, Hinkley Point B's Lifetime and Transition Manager, will provide an overview of EDF's AGR defueling programme at Friday's meeting (Friday 25 June).

At an SSG Extraordinary General Meeting last year, we indicated that we were intending to submit a scoping report to the local planning authority ahead of making a formal application for consent to build waste facilities on site at Hinkley Point B. While we still intend to make this application, the timing is under review and as soon as we have a new schedule agreed, I will let you know.

At the end of April, I had the pleasure of welcoming Anne-Marie Trevelyan, MP and Minister of State for Energy and Clean Growth, to the power station. She was joined by Simone Rossi, EDF's Chief Executive Officer, and Matt Sykes, Generation's Managing Director, and her two-hour trip to the power station was part of a wider programme which also saw her visit Hinkley Point C, Cannington Court and the National College for Nuclear. After being taken on a guided tour of the site, the Minister remarked upon the professionalism and team spirit at the station, as well as the obvious pride taken in keeping everything as it should be.

On a lighter note, a Hinkley Point B employee who lives in Wembdon, had an 'eggstra' special Easter weekend after winning £1 million on The National Lottery. Despite the life changing news, the employee, who works for the site's work engineering group, does not intend to give up his job with EDF and is making big plans with his young family. I am sure you will join me in offering warmest congratulations to the winning individual.

2. Environmental update

Despite the continuing pandemic, all compliance monitoring and reporting has been maintained as required.

As previously reported, we identified a number of anomalies with the first shipment of spent desiccant (radioactive waste) sent to a specialist radioactive waste processing facility in Dorset back in September 2020 for final disposal. In response to this event, the Environment Agency issued the station with a Warning Letter for non-compliances with the site's Radiological Substances Regulations permit. A robust response to this event remains a high priority for us at station. We are making good progress with the actions identified through our investigation, and all these actions are due to be completed on time.

No events of environmental significance were recorded during the reporting period. In line with our normal processes, all events on site of environmental interest are reported to the Environment Agency and recorded and trended to determine the potential for improving our business activities.

3. Emergency arrangements

During the period, the Pandemic has continued to dominate progress. The reduction in the local infection rate has allowed some face-to-face training to resume and the station has also performed the first full-scope exercises since February 2020. Mitigations and COVID-19 controls have been implemented to ensure a safe exercise for participants and umpires.

The exercise demonstration this year focuses on a beyond design basis accident and involves the deployment to site of some of the specialist response equipment bought by EDF following the Fukushima event, which is based at strategic depots across the UK. Although the equipment has not previously been to site as part of an exercise, the feedback from those who manage the beyond design basis response process, and the teams themselves, has been very positive. This equipment will also form the basis of our Level 1 exercise later in the year.

We will be holding our Level One Emergency Exercise on Thursday 16 September and a security exercise on Wednesday 21 July. These exercises will be witnessed by members of the ONR and may involve the attendance of the emergency services. It is possible that the site siren will sound for these exercises.

Since the last report, there have been no instances of any emergency services being called to site.

4. Production statistics

For the period 16 February 2021 to 13 June 2021:

TWh (terawatt-hour) Production:

- > Reactor 3 0.915
- > Reactor 4 0.682

Unit Capability Factor (percentage load factor) is based on a rated unit power (RUP) of 485 GNN (Gross Net Net) for reactor 3 and 480 GNN for reactor 4.

- > Reactor 3 97.81% excluding losses from planned shutdowns and refuelling
- > Reactor 3 66.63% no allowance for planned events, including refuelling
- > Reactor 4 96.23% excluding losses from planned shutdowns and refuelling
- > Reactor 4 50.15% no allowance for planned events, including refuelling

Number of channels re-fuelled on both units: 25 plus 11 shuffled channels.

Number of flasks despatched: 10

(Source: station records.)

5. Station Events

To protect the primary Carbon Dioxide (CO₂) gas circuit from excessive pressure, five gas relief valves (GRVs) are fitted to each reactor through a 300 mm nominal bore manifold. The GRV escape pipes exhausts are located on the main reactor building roof and contain particulate filters. The gas relief valve vents have weather caps fitted to prevent water and debris ingress. During the reactor 4 extended outage, water was found in the corresponding GRVs which was caused by damaged weather caps. The water was successfully drained and the weather caps were replaced. At the time, access to the plant to remove the water and to replace the weather caps was relatively straightforward because the unit was shutdown and in outage. Similar checks were needed on the generating reactor 3 to see if water was also present in the corresponding GRVs. After removing drain plugs on two of the relief valve exhausts, water was identified as being present, and again this was caused by a damaged weather cap. The water was immediately drained and all five weather caps were replaced. This event was rated as level 1 on the International Nuclear Event Scale (an anomaly). Events on a nuclear site are rated according to the International Nuclear Event Scale (INES), which is rated from 0 to 7, with 7 being the highest.

On 21 May while carrying out post maintenance testing of the charge hall crane following a modification to the crab safety rails, the crane collided with a newly installed beam that supported a safety cable for fall protection. The working party immediately stopped the testing and embargoed the crane. A subsequent investigation required the new piece of extended handrail to be removed. This work has now been completed.

6. Staff

- > 494 full-time EDF employees
- > 8 EDF apprentices plus 11 ex-Horizon apprentices
- > 17 agency staff
- > 200 full-time contract staff

7. Community relations

Site visits

Due to the Pandemic and COVID-19 restrictions, site tours were suspended in March 2020. This position is regularly reviewed, and we will continue to monitor and comply with Government guidance to keep our people and the local community safe.

Sponsorship and Donations

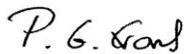
EDF continues to support local charities and organisations. Since the last meeting, local beneficiaries have included:

- > Bridgwater Guy Fawkes Carnival
- > Summerhayes Junior Fishing Club

Charities, community and non-for profit groups who wish to apply for support from Hinkley Point B's Sponsorship and Donations group, should contact Dave Stokes at dave.stokes@edf-energy.com.

Charity fundraising

Staff and contract partners at Hinkley Point B are continuing to raise money for EDF's charity partner, Prostate Cancer UK. Currently the power station lies in second place in the fundraising league of all EDF locations after raising and banking £15,584 for the popular charity. Since EDF launched its four year partnership with Prostate Cancer UK back in January 2020, the company has raised over £250,024.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'P. G. Evans'.

Peter Evans