

Torness monthly report

May 2018

Introduction

We are keen to hear the views of our local communities. We recognise that good communication is a two way process and we welcome your feedback and comments. While we will do our best to always use plain English, talking about our business sometimes involves specific terminology, and you will find a glossary of any terms used at the end of each monthly report.

Safety

- The station had zero lost time incidents (LTI) during the reporting period. EDF Energy staff have had 721 LTI free days (more than a year and a half) up to 31 May and contract partners have had 1421 LTI free days up to 31 May – that's more than three and a half years.
- The station had zero emergency services call out during May.
- There were no first aid injuries at the station in May.
- The station had no environmental events during May and has gone 2662 days without an environmental event (almost seven years).

Station output

Seven flasks containing spent fuel were safely transported to Sellafield for reprocessing during the period.

Both reactors were operational for the whole month.

We generated 779,917 MWh in May; this is enough low carbon electricity to power around 196,679 homes and avoid 0.27 million tonnes of CO₂e emissions and equivalent greenhouse gasses (known as MtCO₂e) (when compared to direct emissions of combined cycle gas turbines).

Since January we have generated 3,899,617MWh. This is enough low carbon electricity to power around 983,401 homes and avoid 1.6 million tonnes CO₂e emissions and equivalent greenhouse gasses (known as MtCO₂e) (when compared to direct emissions of combined cycle gas turbines).

Station news

Torness celebrates 30 years of generation

On Friday 25 May, teams at Torness celebrated 30 years of safe and reliable generation since unit 1 was first synchronised to the grid.

Employees and contract partners are taking part in various commemorative activities on the anniversary, including hosting an exhibition at the visitor centre until 15 June. The exhibition showcases old photos and memorabilia from the past 30 years.

Over the last 30 years Torness have chalked up a highly impressive list of achievements, including supplying the National Grid with 248.5TWh of electricity which equates to 248,500,000,000,000Wh. The station has employed thousands of staff and contract partners over the years and have seen hundreds of millions of pounds invested into the local economy.



Torness station director, Robert Gunn said: "Torness is a very special place. I am extremely proud of everyone at Torness who has made this milestone possible. We have a team of people who are totally committed to making the power station safe and successful and who are looking forward to many more years of safe low carbon electricity production."



Company news



In March this year Hunterston B reactor 3 was taken offline to carry out planned, routine inspections of the graphite core. As part of the normal ageing process we expect to see cracks occurring in some of the graphite bricks that make up the reactor core, something that is well understood and is recognised in our operational safety cases which are agreed with our independent regulator the Office for Nuclear Regulation.

On 2 May we decided that, while the Reactor 3 could return to operation from the current outage, it would remain offline to enable us to work with the regulator to ensure that the longer term safety case reflects the findings of the recent inspections and includes the results obtained from other analysis and modelling.

Commenting on the decision, Donald Urquhart, Deputy Chief Nuclear Inspector and Director of ONR's Operating Facilities Division said: "We welcome the decision by EDF Energy to delay the return to service of Reactor 3 at Hunterston B pending further assessment of the significance of the most recent identified keyway root cracks. I view EDF's decision as responsible, conservative, and made in the best interest of public safety."

EDF Energy has been working over many years to fully understand and prepare for these late life changes to the reactor core and regular inspections at all our plants have provided a clear understanding of how the reactor cores age. Over £100m has been spent on the graphite research programme which benefits from the expertise of our own team of specialists as well as academics at several leading U.K. universities.

This decision underlines the company's commitment to nuclear safety and Hunterston B is, and will continue to be, operated with very large safety margins.

Local community meeting

14 March 2019 from 10:00 – 13:00

Contacts

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Glossary of terms

Term	Definition
Nuclear reportable event or incident	Nuclear reportable events are significant events, such as non-compliance with or inadequacy in the safety case. These (along with other, less significant events) are reported to the Office for Nuclear Regulation (ONR) in compliance with EDF Energy's nuclear site licences.
Environmental event or incident	Environmental events arise from wastes or discharges above permitted levels or breaches of permitted conditions which result in an environmental impact. These (along with other, less significant events) are reported to SEPA.
Outage	A period during which a reactor is shut down. The periodic shutdown of a reactor including for maintenance, inspection and testing or, in some cases, for refuelling is known as a planned outage. In the UK, some planned outages are known as statutory outages and are required by the conditions attached to the nuclear site licence needed to operate the station. Unscheduled shutdown of a reactor for a period is known as an unplanned outage.
Unit	A unit refers to one of the reactors at the power station and its generating turbine.
LTI	When a member of staff injures themselves at work, and is absent from work for one day or more, this is referred to as a lost-time incident (LTI)