

## Torness monthly report

### October 2015

#### 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 and EDF Energy staff have had 2,478 free days up to 31 October (more than six years) and contract partners have had 477 LTI free days up to 31 October.
- The station had no emergency services call outs during October.
- There were three minor first aid injuries at the station in October.
- The station had no environmental events during October and has gone 1,719 days without an environmental event (over four years)

#### Station output

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

Reactor 1 and reactor 2 were operational for the whole month.

#### Station news

##### Engineers build bridges with local community

A community minded group of staff from EDF Energy's Torness power station have been spending time building a bridge in Oldhamstocks. This is part of a scheme within EDF Energy called 'Helping Hands' which allows staff to take two paid days off a year to help out in the local community or for an environmental cause.

The Oldhamstocks burn is normally a very gentle stream running quietly from its source in the eastern Lammermuirs on a short journey of about four miles to the sea. In its upper reaches it is often invisible as it flows under a bed of boulders left behind after the retreat of the glaciers at the end of the last Ice Age. After heavy rain, though, it can turn very quickly into a raging torrent of brown water. Particularly where it flows through steep-sided banks it can build up a powerful surge. So it was that the Old Mill footbridge on the edge of the village was swept aside overnight a few years ago and left, smashed beyond repair, on the bank downstream from the crossing point.

The bridge carried a footpath from the village up the hill to the Woollands, a farm which historically





had been part of the Lammermuirs sheep based economy but is now the location for a bottled water business. The path was a vital link in a popular local round walk, returning to the village by a ford and the Kirk Brae. It also provided a short cut to the Lammermuirs themselves for walkers. The bridge was missed.

A group of people in the village got together to explore what could be done to replace the bridge. Help, sometimes financial and sometimes in kind, was given by Torness, Lafarge, East Lothian Council and the East Lammermuirs Community Council. Expert engineering advice was given, technical drawings were provided, materials were sourced and agreement reached on access for equipment. This planning phase involved a lot of patient negotiation and co-operation, vital to the success of the operation.

Preparatory site clearance took place in the spring of 2014 and construction began in June 2014. The early phase involved concrete shuttering to provide solid foundations and the laying of very heavy steel beams to carry the walking surface of the bridge high above the burn. This phase involved a lot of expert input. Much of the work was carried out by local volunteers, however, and the finishing off of the project, including building up the steps and guard rails was carried out by volunteers living in the village.

The new bridge is now complete and being used and appreciated. The ground around the building site has been re-instated and fences re-built.

Torness station director Paul Winkle said: "We are glad to have been involved with just a worthy cause - it is an excellent example of a hands-on local initiative and shows what can happen when a community pull together."

Oldhamstocks has a sturdy new bridge to withstand Lammas floods and snow melt.

### **Apprentice open day**

Torness power station will be holding two information days about its very successful Engineering Maintenance Apprenticeship scheme on Saturday 21 November and Saturday 5 December to let prospective recruits know more about it. There will be two sessions on each day, one at 9:30 and another at 11:00. You must book a place in advance.

From studying at HMS Sultan in Portsmouth for the first two years to what qualifications are needed and how to apply, the information day will prove invaluable to anyone considering a career in engineering maintenance.

We are all very proud of what we do here at the power station, both locally in offering jobs and nationally by producing a large percentage of the nation's low carbon electricity demands. This day will give us a chance to share this enthusiasm with those wishing to apply to join our apprenticeship scheme in 2015.

In the current climate, an apprenticeship offers a real alternative to going to university. Our scheme is very highly regarded and the sky is really the limit for our apprentices. Several members of EDF Energy's executive team started with the company in this way, so the message is this course could be the start of a truly amazing engineering career.

While anyone who meets the criteria can apply, we are very keen to encourage females to consider a career in engineering at EDF Energy. The information day will have a number of staff on hand to share their experiences of working in the nuclear industry. We will deliver a presentation and there will also be an opportunity to ask questions about the programme. There will be no site tour.

The information day will take place at Torness power station in the visitor centre and will last roughly 1.5 hours. If you would like to come along or find out more, please contact Ashleigh Dickson on



[ashleigh.dickson@edf-energy.com](mailto:ashleigh.dickson@edf-energy.com).

You need to register your attendance in advance for the specific date and time.

## Company news

### **Strategic Investment Agreement signed for the construction and operation of the proposed Hinkley Point C**

EDF and China General Nuclear Power Corporation (CGN) have signed a Strategic Investment Agreement for the construction and operation of the proposed Hinkley Point C nuclear power station in Somerset.

Conditions to allow the Hinkley Point C project to go ahead are in place. These are the signing of the Strategic Investment Agreement, all the agreements between EDF and the UK Government being in a final agreed form, as are the contracts with the key suppliers.

Under the Strategic Investment Agreement, EDF's share in Hinkley Point C will be 66.5% and CGN's will be 33.5%. Without reducing this initial stake below 50%, EDF intends in due course to bring other investors into the project.

China General Nuclear Power Corporation (CGN) will make its investment in the UK through its new company called General Nuclear International (GNI). EDF and CGN have also agreed the Heads of Terms of a wider UK partnership for the joint development of new nuclear power stations at Sizewell in Suffolk and Bradwell in Essex. Terms will be in final form before the final investment decision for Hinkley Point C.

This signing paves the way for the Hinkley Point C project to go ahead and sets the steps for a final investment decision subject to:

- finalisation of long form documentation based on Head of Terms agreed
- finalisation by EDF of its financing plan
- approval by the boards of EDF and CGN
- clearance by merger control and other governmental authorities in China and Europe.

## Next local community meeting

The Local Community Liaison Council meeting will be held on 7 April 2016 at Torness power station.

### **Contacts**

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If you would like to receive this newsletter via e-mail please contact Ashleigh on the above address.

## Glossary of terms

Term	Definition
Nuclear reportable event or incident	Nuclear reportable events are events 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.
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)