

Information

for County Councillors

Sheet Number:
2022-27/27



From:	Louise Martin, Senior Planning Policy Officer
Relevant SLT Director and sign-off date:	Michelle Cusack 6 th October 2022
Date:	14 November 2022
To:	All County Councillors

Hinkley Point B decommissioning

Hinkley Point B Power Station ceased generation on 1st August 2022 after 46 years of power generation.

In line with Governments agreement on the decommissioning of the Advanced Gas Cooled Reactor (AGR) fleet, Hinkley Point B station (HPB) will be defueled by EDF and the site will transfer to the Nuclear Decommissioning Authority (NDA) for decommissioning by its subsidiary Magnox.

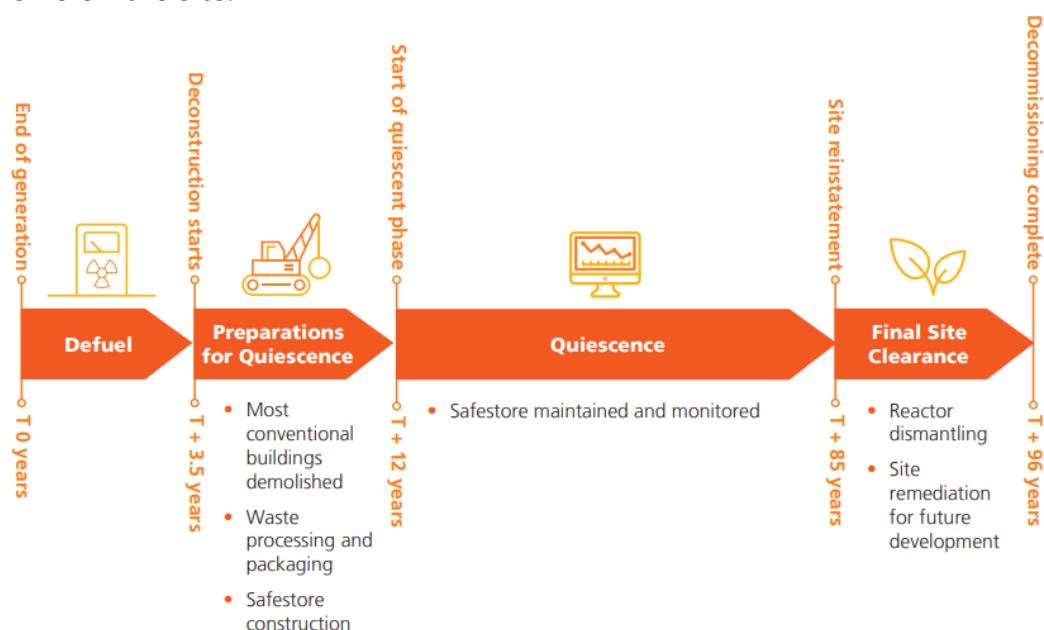
EDF began to defuel reactor 4 in September and will progress reactor 3 when reactor 4 is fuel free. An average of 3 flasks per week will be dispatched from HPB to Sellafield via Bridgwater Rail Head. Defueling is expected to take 3-5 years.

Over the next few years EDF will be working closely with the NDA and Magnox to develop proposals for decommissioning which will involve dismantling and demolition of plant and buildings on site and the construction of new buildings.

EDF have launched a consultation seeking stakeholder views to help inform their proposals for decommissioning. Details of their plans can be accessed on their website: [Hinkley Point B nuclear power station | EDF \(edfenergy.com\)](https://www.edfenergy.com/hinkley-point-b-nuclear-power-station)

The deadline for comment is 21st November and officers are currently preparing a technical response to EDF on behalf of the County Council.

The consultation documents include this indicative timeline for the various stages of works on the site:



The decommissioning proposals for the site will require consents from various regulatory authorities including the new Somerset Council as the Local Planning and Waste Planning Authority, the Office for Nuclear Regulation (ONR) under the Nuclear Reactors (Environmental Impact Assessment for Decommissioning) Regulations (EIADR), Environment Permits from the Environment Agency for radioactive substances and water discharges and Marine Licences from the Marine Management Organisation (MMO).

In addition to the construction of new waste facilities on HPB site, EDFs proposals include the use of the radioactive waste storage facility on Hinkley Point A (HPA) site. This would be subject to planning consent as the permission is restricted for the storage of wastes originating from HPA site. The Waste Core Strategy identifies the potential for the treatment and storage of radioactive waste from the different facilities within common infrastructure and policy DM9 is shaped to support this.

The County Council has also been consulted by ONR recently on a scoping report that EDF have submitted under EIADR. Officers have provided separate comments to ONR on EDFs proposals for an Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) that will be undertaken to support their application to ONR for consent to decommission the site.

For more information please contact:	Name: Louise Martin/Colin Arnold Email: mineralandwaste@somerset.gov.uk Telephone: 01823 359746/01823 357349
--------------------------------------	---