

Tendon Monitoring – Hunterston B Nuclear Power Station

Tendon load checking, corrosion monitoring and strand replacement to Reactor Building primary containment structure.



Clients
Post tensioning specialist
Site programme

British Energy & BBS
Balvac
1994 to date

In 1994 Balvac won the contract to carry out annual tendon monitoring works at Hunterston B Power Station for British Energy. On several occasions since then our client has gone out to tender to benchmark our price, but we continue to be their contractor of choice to date. In recent years tendon monitoring works has become part of the maintenance contract managed by Balfour Beatty Services and our contract is now with them.



The tendons at Hunterston B each comprise 7No 0.7” strands in a (now obsolete) anchorage in which each strand is individually stressed. Typically 32No tendons are load checked in each of the upper and lower stressing galleries during an annual visit. The lower gallery is designated as a confined space, with strictly enforced safety arrangements in place.

All works are carried out in accordance with British Energy work procedures, using stressing equipment owned by the station since it was originally constructed. Completed QC record sheets for the various tasks are handed to British Energy for review.

Each visit comprises a schedule of jack calibrations, visual inspections, load checks, shimming and tendon corrosion samples (detension, remove & sample, replace, stress).

Balvac are the UK and Ireland licensee of the MK4 Post Tensioning System, and are CARES QA certified for internal and external, bonded and unbonded, post tensioning systems for a wide range of structures such as bridges, building slabs, tanks and silos.



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