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BRITISH ENERGY PLC
Form 6-K
December 16, 2003

FORM 6-K

SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION
Washington, D.C. 20549

Report of Foreign Issuer

Pursuant to Rule 13a-16 or 15d-16 of
the Securities Exchange Act of 1934

December 16 2003

BRITISH ENERGY PLC
(Registrant's name)

3 Redwood Crescent
Peel Park
East Kilbride G74 5PR
Scotland
(Address of principal executive offices)

Indicate by check mark whether the registrant files or will file annual reports under cover Form 20-F or Form 40-F.

Form 20-F..X.. Form 40-F.....

Indicate by check mark whether the registrant by furnishing the information contained in this Form is also thereby furnishing the information to the Commission pursuant to Rule 12g3-2(b) under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934.

Yes No ..X..

If "Yes" is marked, indicate below the file number assigned to the registrant in connection with Rule 12g3-2(b):

Exhibit Index

The following document (bearing the exhibit number listed below) is furnished herewith and is made a part of this Report pursuant to the General Instructions for Form 6-K:

| Exhibit | Description |
|---------|---|
| No. 1 | RNS Announcement, re: 'Heysham 1 Up-date' dated 16 December 2003 |

British Energy plc

Heysham 1 Update

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Further to its announcement of 24 November, British Energy confirms today that the inspections of the seawater cooling pipes at Heysham 1 have now been completed. Having reviewed the inspection results received in recent days, British Energy has decided it is necessary to extend the current outage in order to replace further pipework. As a consequence, it is now expected that the outage on the two units will continue into the first quarter of 2004.

A further announcement will be made in due course.

Contacts

Media Enquiries Andrew Dowler (Financial Dynamics) 020 7831 3113

Investor Relations Paul Heward 01355 262201

Find this News Release on our web site: www.british-energy.com

SIGNATURES

Pursuant to the requirements of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, the registrant has duly caused this report to be signed on its behalf by the undersigned, thereunto duly authorized.

Date: December 16 2003

BRITISH ENERGY PLC

By: _____ Paul Heward _____

Name: Paul Heward

Title: Director - Investor Relations