



NRC NEWS

U.S. NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

Office of Public Affairs Telephone: 301/415-8200

Washington, D.C. 20555-0001

E-mail: opa.resource@nrc.gov

Site: <http://www.nrc.gov>

No. 10-181

October 8, 2010

NRC ISSUES FIFTH NATIONAL REPORT FOR CONVENTION ON NUCLEAR SAFETY

The Nuclear Regulatory Commission has issued its updated report on the safety of U.S. nuclear power plants entitled, "United States of America Fifth National Report for the Convention on Nuclear Safety." This report demonstrates how the nation maintains a high level of safety for its nuclear power plants and contributes to nuclear safety worldwide through international cooperation.

In particular, this report addresses the issues identified in the peer review of the fourth review meeting, discusses challenges and issues that have arisen since the fourth review meeting, discusses hiring and training initiatives, discusses NRC's handling of unexpected material degradation problems associated with operation and power uprates, discusses maintaining a positive and adequate safety culture and NRC's licensing program support of new and different technologies.

Overall, the report addresses the safety of nuclear power plants, the legislative and regulatory framework, the regulatory body, responsibility of the licensee, the priority given to safety, financial and human resources, human factors, quality assurance, assessment and verification of safety, radiation protection, emergency preparedness, siting, design and construction, and operation. Because the prime responsibility for the safety of a nuclear power plant rests with the license holder, the updated report includes a section developed by the Institute of Nuclear Power Operations describing work done by the nuclear industry to ensure safety.

The 2010 report, which updates a 2007 report, will be peer-reviewed by parties to the Convention. Every three years the countries participating in the convention must submit a report on their programs for peer review as an incentive to achieve the highest level of safety. The Fifth National Report Review Meeting will be held at the International Atomic Energy Agency in Vienna, Austria, in April 2011.

Copies of the updated "United States of America Fifth National Report for the Convention on Nuclear Safety" (NUREG-1650, Revision 3) will be available for public inspection in the NRC Public Document Room at NRC headquarters, One White Flint North, 11555 Rockville Pike,

Rockville, Md.; or electronically through the Agencywide Documents Access and Management System through the NRC website at www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/adams/web-based.html. The accession number of the report is ML102670530.

###

News releases are available through a free *listserv* subscription at the following Web address: <http://www.nrc.gov/public-involve/listserver.html>. The NRC homepage at www.nrc.gov also offers a SUBSCRIBE link. E-mail notifications are sent to subscribers when news releases are posted to NRC's Web site.