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NRC, Polish Regulators Renew Cooperation Agreement, Including New Reactor Activities

The U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission and Poland's nuclear regulator, the National Atomic Energy Agency (known as PAA), have renewed their cooperation agreement for the next five years. Going forward, the cooperation will include exchanging information on Westinghouse's large AP1000 and GE Hitachi's small modular BWRX-300 reactor designs.

"We look forward to continuing to work with our PAA counterparts, sharing our decades of reactor experience as Poland stands up its civilian nuclear power program," said NRC Chair Christopher Hanson. "We're eager to provide what we've learned in certifying and licensing the AP1000s at the Vogtle site in Georgia. We'll continue sharing information as we move from pre-application work to a full review of the BWRX-300 for U.S. use. This cooperation with Poland expands on our existing technical collaboration on small modular and advanced reactor designs with our Canadian counterparts."

The NRC's cooperation with the PAA has been ongoing since 2010, when the first bilateral arrangement between the two agencies was signed. This is one of more than 50 bilateral agreements the NRC has signed with overseas regulatory counterparts over the past 40 years to exchange technical and regulatory information to improve nuclear safety around the world. These agreements are at the core of the NRC's international activities, which support the agency's mission of protecting public health and safety, promoting the common defense and security, and protecting the environment. The NRC's cooperative efforts also support broader U.S. domestic and international interests.