

NRC NEWS

U.S. NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

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NRC ISSUES THIRD NATIONAL REPORT FOR THE CONVENTION ON NUCLEAR SAFETY

The Nuclear Regulatory Commission has issued its "Third National Report for the Convention on Nuclear Safety," outlining how the U.S. government adheres to the convention's objective of a high level of nuclear safety worldwide.

The updated report highlights the NRC's revised strategic goals and the main nuclear safety issues facing the agency and nuclear power plant licensees, including reactor vessel cracking, pressurized-water reactor containment sump performance, electric grid reliability, emergency preparedness and security. Also in the report are major accomplishments, including amendments to regulatory actions that have been accomplished in the past three years concerning operator training, radiation protection, decommissioning funding, partial site release, importing of components, electronic maintenance and submission of information, fire protection and hearing procedures.

The 2004 report, which updates a 2001 report, will be peer reviewed by parties to the convention. Every three years the countries participating in the convention, currently more than 50, must submit reports on their programs for peer review as an incentive to achieve the highest possible levels of safety. The Third National Report Review Meeting will be held in Vienna, Austria, in April 2005.

The report will be available through NRC's Agencywide Documents Access and Management System (ADAMS), at http://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/adams/web-based.html, using accession number ML042450148. For help in using ADAMS, call the NRC Public Document Room at 1-800-397-4209 or 301-415-4737. Copies of the report (NUREG-1650, Rev. 1) will also be available at the NRC's Public Electronic Reading Room: http://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/doc-collections/nuregs/ and at the NRC Public Document Room in Rockville, Md.