

No. 93-34  
Tel. 301-504-2240

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
(Wednesday, March 24, 1993)

NRC RECEIVES REPORT ON IAEA MISSION  
TO GRAND GULF NUCLEAR POWER PLANT

The Nuclear Regulatory Commission staff has received a report from an Operational Safety Review Team (OSART) of the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) on the Grand Gulf nuclear power plant located about 25 miles south of Vicksburg, Mississippi.

The 12-member team of international nuclear experts visited Grand Gulf from August 3 to 21, 1992. The visit was designed to provide team members with an opportunity to exchange safety ideas and experience with their counterparts at the Grand Gulf facility.

Its resulting report deals with eight operating areas: management, organization and administration, training and qualifications, operations, maintenance, technical support, radiation protection, chemistry and emergency planning and preparedness.

In its report, the team concluded that it "...was greatly impressed by the commitment of management and staff to the achievement of high levels of safety in the operation and maintenance of the plant..." and that it had "...identified many positive initiatives which contributed to an environment of continuous improvement."

The team, in fulfilling one of the principal objectives of the OSART program, also made a number of proposals for consideration by Grand Gulf management.

Entergy, the utility that owns the Grand Gulf facility, has provided the NRC with information on its actions in response to the recommendations made by the OSART team. This information has been forwarded to IAEA headquarters in Vienna, Austria.

In a letter transmitting Entergy's comments to the IAEA, the NRC staff emphasized that it continues "...to consider the OSART program a valuable service provided by the International Atomic Energy Agency, especially for countries which do not have in place a strong inspection program or do not have broad experience."

A three-person IAEA followup visit to the Grand Gulf plant is expected in 1994.

Copies of the report and the Entergy response to the recommendations have been placed in the Commission's Public Document Room in Washington, D.C.

#