

# **HUNGARIAN ATOMIC ENERGY AUTHORITY**

## **Nuclear Safety Directorate**

National Regulatory Role in the  
Operational Safety Assessment Review Team (OSART) Mission of the IAEA

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### **History and Background**

There were two OSART’s Missions held at Paks NPP until now. The first one was carried out in 1988, which was the first full scope OSART-mission not only at Paks NPP but also the first one ever conducted at a Soviet-designed plant. Thereafter a follow-up mission came to Paks in 1991. The second mission team visited Paks NPP from 8 to 25 October 2001. The purpose of all missions was to review operating practices in eight different fields: Management, organisation and administration; Training and qualification; Operation; Maintenance; Technical Support; Radiation protection; Chemistry; Emergency planning and preparedness. Recommendations, suggestions and good practices have been drawn up by the team members and a detailed report has been written and sent for comments to both the utility and the authority some weeks after the mission concluded. A follow-up mission was asked by Paks NPP recently when a reduced team will investigate the progress achieved during the past two years. It is expected to be carried out in October this year.

### **Role of the HAEA at the OSART-missions**

The Hungarian Atomic Energy Authority (HAEA) involves the nuclear safety regulatory body as its internal organizational unit, the Nuclear Safety Directorate (NSD). HAEA serves as the Hungarian counterpart of the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA), therefore the request of Paks NPP was forwarded to the IAEA via HAEA. All communications were also carried out through this official channel.

HAEA’s high ranking representatives took part both in the kick-off meeting of the OSART-mission and in the closing evaluation meeting.

In the exit meeting the Head of the NSD called the team members’ attention to some specific areas, which he thought should especially be important investigated carefully. He

offered also possibilities of consultations with regulatory staff if necessary or useful. This opportunity was seized by the team members during the mission.

The draft Final Report was sent officially to HAEA for comments and for asking publication because it is also the right of HAEA to make decision on confidential or open treatment of the report. (HAEA decided for open treatment)

Apart from this rather administrative steps HAEA-NSD studied the report very carefully and evaluated it from regulatory point of view. Four aspects were used by NSD at the regulatory review of the OSART-report as follows:

- 1 Are the statements made by the OSART in consensus with the results of safety performance evaluation carried out by the NSD in the same time?
- 2 What are those recommendations and/or suggestions of the OSART, which had been made also by the NSD earlier but the implementation of non-compliances in question was still not accomplished?
- 3 Which are those non-compliances revealed by OSART-mission that were not considered by the NSD yet?
4. What are those operational safety problems or weaknesses, which were already discovered by the NSD and initiated their solution, however they were not mentioned or not adequately emphasised in the OSART-report?

### **The most important findings of NSD's evaluation**

The findings of the NSD's evaluation were reported to the licensee, the most important of which are as follows:

1. The report itself is correct, its recommendations and suggestions are straightforward and are in keeping with short or medium term objectives of the NSD.
2. Statements made in Chapter "Main Conclusions" of the report harmonise very well with those written in our safety performance evaluation reports of the past two years.
3. There are some details of the report that contains deficiencies, which had been revealed also by the NSD but we were not successful until now in enforcement their implementation.
4. Especially interesting are those statements of the report that are relating to the management processes and their self-assessments because they help NSD to give more emphasis of findings in its own integrated inspection carried out in early 2001 and repeated again very recently in this field. The same was recognised in the area of maintenance.

Finally, it is to mention that we have analysed the OSART report also from the viewpoint of what lessons could be learned from its recommendations and suggestions for improvement

of our regulatory work. Some of their findings have escaped our attention until now and we did not take care about them.

### **Conclusions**

OSART-missions of the IAEA are very useful not only for the operational organisations but also for the regulators as well. Active involvement of the regulators helps the team members and, on the other hand, it is highly advisable for the regulatory authority to study the OSART-report carefully and to evaluate its findings in the light of the national regulatory inspections and enforcement. Lessons learned during this process can be used very effectively in improving the regulatory activity.