

Plant status report/Qs&As/OPA
10-26-01

Q: Why was the plant status report removed from the web site to begin with?

A: The NRC took down the plant status report on Oct. 12, along with the rest of its web site, at the request of another federal agency to take another look at information which might be helpful to a terrorist. Prior to that time, the agency had on its own initiative taken a considerable ~~amount of information—such as nuclear power plant coordinates—off its web site.~~ *some*

Q: Why then is it being reposted, but in truncated form?

A: After careful review, it was decided the operational status of each plant could be made public once again, but certain other information on the reason a particular plant might be down might conceivably be useful to terrorists.

Q: Why did it take the NRC so long to make this determination?

A: The external web site was partially restored on Oct. 17 as a painstaking review process continued. Additional information deemed non-sensitive will be posted again as soon as practical.

Q: Has the absence of the plant status report affected electricity prices or the ability for financial forecasting?

A: We don't believe so; but these are not the NRC's concerns.

Q: Who has been pressing the NRC to resume posting such information?

A: Primarily financial institutions and the trade press.

Q: If the NRC won't provide all the details it once made available, where might interested persons try to get such information?

A: It's up to individual power plant operators to decide what further information they wish to make public.

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