

## **December 2004 Security Highlights**

On November 30 and December 1-2, NRC staff conducted stakeholder outreach workshops with DHS and FEMA on the National Response Plan and nuclear security issues in Region I (Albany, NY) and Region IV (Dallas, TX). Attendees expressed strong interest in the Nuclear/Radiological Incident Annex, NRC's response roles, Federal/State/licensee interactions in response to a terrorism incident, public/media information issues, and terrorism-related exercises. This workshop was conducted in Region III (Argonne, IL) on November 10, 2004 and will be conducted in Region II (Orlando, FL) in January 2005.

An Executive forum of the federal Government Coordinating Council and the industry's Nuclear Security Coordinating Councils (NSCC) was held on December 2, 2004, to discuss the operation of the coordinating councils and homeland protection and preparedness issues.

The NRC held three workshops (December 3, December 6, and December 9, 2004) with licensee, State, and Federal agency stakeholders on the proposed security measures for Radioactive Materials - Quantities of Concern (RAMQC). All meetings were conducted as closed meetings with controlled access to discuss SAFEGUARDS Information. The staff is now evaluating stakeholder comments, revising the proposed security measures, and will submit the final RAMQC additional security measures to the Commission for approval.

On December 14-15, staff participated in the ARDENT SENTRY 05 battle staff training wargame, which was held at the Naval War College in Newport, RI. The NRC representatives assisted the Office of the Secretary of Defense, the Joint Staff and the Department of Homeland Security in baselining the processes necessary to request and deploy a quick response force to a civilian infrastructure asset, such as commercial nuclear plants.

The NRC continues to meet its responsibility for implementing treaties and agreements of the U.S. Government at the licensee installations. These include the US/IAEA Safeguards Agreement, the protocol to the agreement, and cooperation agreements. The NRC staff worked with DOE, DOE contractors, and representatives of the Defense Threat Reduction Agency and the Department of State to (1) discuss and plan the next physical protection bilateral oversight mission, and (2) the previous visit to Korea and the status of the follow-on work that must be completed. Tentative plans for the next mission are to undertake a late February/early March 2005 visit to Germany and Switzerland, with the alternative of a visit to Italy and Switzerland. Additional international activities include the NRC staff meeting with staff from Department of Energy and Department of State regarding upcoming bilateral discussions with the French on issues of nuclear security, including source protection, transportation, and threat assessment.

## VIII Power Reactor Security Regulations

In response to the terrorist attacks on September 11, 2001, the NRC and the nuclear industry have taken many actions to ensure the security at nuclear power plants. A series of Advisories, Orders, and Regulatory Issue Summaries have been issued to strengthen further the security of NRC-licensed facilities and control of nuclear materials.

Orders were issued on April 29, 2003, to revise the threat against which individual power reactor licensees and category I fuel cycle facilities must be able to defend (design basis threat [DBT]), limit the number of hours that security personnel can work, and enhance training and qualification requirements for security personnel. The security plan reviews and appropriate licensing and inspection activities were completed and all licensees implemented the Orders by October 29, 2004.

Orders were issued on October 23, 2003, to all nuclear reactor licensees and research reactor licensees that transport spent nuclear fuel. The licensees subject to the Order have been issued a specific license by NRC authorizing the possession of spent nuclear fuel and a general license authorizing the transportation of spent nuclear fuel in a transport package approved by the Commission in accordance with the Atomic Energy Act of 1954, as amended, and 10 CFR Parts 50 and 71.

In March 2003, the NRC initiated a program to improve full force-on-force exercises, which used expanded adversary characteristics that were developed as a result of the increased post 9/11 threat. The purpose of the force-on-force exercises is to assess and improve, as necessary, performance of defensive strategies at licensed facilities. Pilot force-on-force exercises were completed at fifteen plants in 2003 and the lessons learned were factored into the full implementation of the force-on-force program. Sixteen transitional force-on-force tests were conducted through October 2004. In November 2004, the NRC implemented triennial force-on-force testing program and by mid-December 2004, had completed two of the twenty-two scheduled exercises .

To enhance the realism and effectiveness of the force-on-force exercises, the NRC established fitness and training standards for mock adversary force personnel. Application of these standards provides assurance that the mock adversary force has received appropriate training in offensive tactics and is a credible and challenging adversary. The NRC retains responsibility for oversight of the mock adversary force and evaluation of licensee performance. To date, the mock adversary force has performed adequately in the six force-on-force exercises it has participated in.

Since 9/11, the staff suspended the physical protection portion of the baseline inspections in the Reactor Oversight Process and focused NRC security inspections on licensee implementation of compensatory measures to address the post-9/11 threat environment. In March 2004, the staff began implementation of the revised baseline inspection program which took into consideration enhanced security requirements and the higher threat environment. During FY 2005, inspection efforts are focusing on verifying implementation of the revised security plans. Implementation of all elements of the baseline inspection program will commence in 2006.

The NRC continues to support U.S. Department of Homeland Security (DHS)/Homeland Security Council (HSC) initiative to enhance integrated response planning for power reactor facilities. Two Integrated Response Tabletop exercises were completed in 2004. The staff is continuing to work with HSC, DHS, Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) and others to develop plans to address recommended actions. Additionally, the NRC completed six imminent aircraft threat announced walk-throughs with NPPs and lessons learned have been incorporated into a Safeguards Advisory. Walk-throughs are scheduled to resume in March 2005. The staff is developing Emergency Action Levels (EALs) for all imminent threats. The EAL development program includes plans to coordinate issues with other agencies and state and local governments.