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From:Brett RiniTo:Ann Kammerer; Clifford Munson; George X Thomas; Goutam Bagchi; Jon Ake;Kamal Manoly;Nilesh Chokshi; Rebecca Karas; Yong LiDate:10/19/2007 11:16:03 AMSubject:INFO: KK Unit 7 In-Core Inspection - Control Rod Extraction Issue

All,

We received the following press release from our International Liaison at the IAEA. The text of the press release is below:

"Press Release (Oct 18,2007) Status of the Unit 7 in-core inspections

As for the unit 7, in order to conduct in-core inspections, we have been removing fuel assemblies from the reactor core to the fuel storage pool since Oct.11th. At 3:05 pm, today, we found that one control rod could not be extracted, when pulling out control rods after removing fuel assemblies.

There is no safety hazard, because all fuel assemblies adjacent to the control rod had been extracted and supported stably by the Double Blade Guide.

We will inspect this event to find the causes."

I found more information on the World Nuclear News site at: http://www.world-nuclearnews.org/regulationSafety/Control\_rod\_stuck\_in\_Kashiwazaki\_Kariwa\_unit-191007.shtml

Brett

Brett Rini Operating Experience Branch Division of Inspection and Regional Support Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation 301-415-3931 bar3@nrc.gov

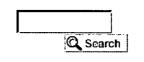
>>> "Astwood, Heather M" <<u>AstwoodHM@state.gov</u> > 10/19/2007 6:40:08 AM >>> The US embassy in Japan reported this morning that the Kashiwazaki-Kariwa NPP operator was unable to remove one control rod from Unit 7. The press release issued by TEPCO is attached.

<< TEPCO Unit 7 Control Rod 10 18 07 .doc>>

CC:

John Thorp; Mary Jane Ross-Lee

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## **Press Releases**

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