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International Safety Review Team Visits Clinton Nuclear Plant

An international team of nuclear safety experts will visit the Clinton nuclear power plant from August 12 through 28 to review operational safety practices at the facility located in Clinton, Ill., approximately 28 miles southeast of Bloomington.

The voluntary peer review, known as an Operational Safety Review Team (OSART) visit, is led by the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA), which is based in Vienna, Austria. The 14-member team will include reviewers from Canada, Slovakia, Belgium, Mexico and other countries.

Established by IAEA in 1982, the OSART program is designed to assist member states in enhancing the operational safety of nuclear power plants and fostering continuous improvements through the dissemination on information on best practices. This will be the eighth OSART review of a U.S. nuclear power plant since the program was initiated.

Areas to be covered during the review include, but are not limited to, operational experience, training and qualifications, radiation protection, chemistry, emergency planning and preparedness and maintenance.

“While the NRC does not conduct the OSART review, the staff does closely follow it and any outcomes, both for their safety significance and any possible safety improvements,” said Region III Administrator Cynthia D. Pederson.

Once the OSART reviewers have complete their work, they will produce a report identifying best practices and suggesting possible safety improvements. This report will be provided to the plant’s operator, Exelon Generation Co., LLC, and the U.S. government.