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## **US And Taiwan Complete Peer Review Of Nuclear Safety Report**

A peer review of a nuclear safety report prepared by the nuclear regulatory authority in Taiwan has been completed as part of an agreement with the US Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC).

The US-Taiwan peer review meeting took place in June 2005 at the NRC's headquarters in Washington DC. A peer review agreement was reached between the US and Taiwan during a bilateral annual nuclear cooperation meeting in December 2003.

The Atomic Energy Council (AEC) in Taipei told NucNet that the June meeting covered a range of issues including the importance of independent and effective regulatory bodies and the establishment and maintenance of a complete and regulatory framework with increased use of risk-informed decision-making.

Taiwan is not a member of the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) and does not take part in IAEA peer review meetings held under the Convention on Nuclear Safety – the last of which was held in April 2005. However, the AEC started work on its own nuclear safety report in 2002, which it said was written in accordance with IAEA guidelines. The draft report was reviewed by all nuclear-related organisations in Taiwan and finalised in September 2004.

“There is no boundary when it comes to nuclear safety. All the states with operating nuclear power plants, including Taiwan, should be invited in the future to participate in the (IAEA) peer review meeting under the Convention on Nuclear Safety to foster international nuclear safety,” the AEC said.

Taiwan has three operational nuclear power plants, each with two units. A fourth nuclear plant, Lungmen, is under construction (see also News in Brief No. 30, 21st March 2005).

Source: NucNet

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