

Workshop on Radiation Protection during Nuclear Power Plant Decommissioning, 16-19 June 2014

The Workshop on Occupational Radiation Protection during Nuclear Power Plant Decommissioning was held at the IAEA Headquarters, Vienna from 16 to 19 June 2014. This workshop is part of the IAEA's approved Programme and Budget for 2014–15 and is included under IAEA Project 3.3.1.003 on "Occupational Radiation Protection, with funding from the European Union.

The workshop, which was aimed at operators, service providers and radiation protection professionals involved in decommissioning activities, was attended by 15 experts from Belgium, Bulgaria, Canada, Denmark, France, Germany, India, Japan, Lithuania, Slovakia, Spain, Sweden, United Kingdom and United States of America. The purpose was to exchange experiences in managing the protection of workers from ionizing radiation and other industrial hazards during the decommissioning of nuclear power plants.

There were a variety of presentations (listed below) at the meeting, covering experiences from experts involved in previously conducted, on-going or planned decommissioning activities. The presentations demonstrated both good examples and lessons learned with respect to occupational radiation protection.

Several interesting discussions also took place during the meeting, which addressed a wide range of occupational radiation protection issues, such as occupational radiological risk assessments, radiological characterization, radiation protection programs, strategy and organizational issues, work planning, itinerant workers, radiation protection experts in the organization, monitoring of internal intake and of exposure to the lens of the eye, management of radiological and non-radiological occupational hazards, optimization of protection, role and use of dose constraints, and engineered control versus using people and safety culture.

A summary of the highlights and of specific conclusions from the workshop will be presented in a separate meeting report (currently being prepared).

List of the Technical Presentations

Occupational radiation protection experiences in decommissioning

- Radiological Protection within Magnox Ltd, UK
- Main challenges and gained experience in the field of radiation protection during implementation of decommissioning projects at Ignalina NPP, Lithuania
- Experience and analysis on radiation protection in decommissioning the Japan Power Demonstration Reactor, Japan
- Occupational Radiation Protection In The Environment of The Long- Term Storage, Slovakia
- Radiological Safety Aspects of Nuclear Power Plant Decommissioning – Indian Perspective, India
- German Experiences in RP during Decommissioning – Overview and Legal System, Germany

Case studies

- German Experiences in RP during Decommissioning – Example cases, Germany
- Radiation Protection Measures During the Decommissioning of DR 2, Denmark

- Dismantling of the PWR BR3 at the SCK, with, in particular, the removal of asbestos, Belgium
- Case Study – Bradwell Ponds Centre Bay Clearance, UK
- Lessons about alpha contamination in CANDU reactors, Canada
- José Cabrera NPP dismantling and decommissioning project, Spain

Radiation Protection Management

- Implementing a Radiological Work Control Program during decommissioning, US
- Implementation of the ALARA principle in the decommissioning project of the BR3, Belgium
- Implications of the new dose limit for the lens of the eye at service operation of Barsebäck NPP, Sweden
- Occupational safety: how to improve results with prevention through design, France
- Managing alpha contamination from Actinides (transuranics) during NPP decommissioning, US
- Bugey 1 project (movie), France

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Photo: Meeting Participants, IAEA Vienna