



न्यूक्लियर पावर कॉर्पोरेशन
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(भारत सरकार का उद्यम)
**NUCLEAR POWER CORPORATION
OF INDIA LIMITED**
(A Govt. of India Enterprise)

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नलिनीश नगाइच
उत्कृष्ट वैज्ञानिक एवं
अधिशासी निदेशक (सी पी एवं सी सी)
NALINISH NAGAICH
Outstanding Scientist &
Executive Director (CP & CC)

A CLARIFICATION

April 20, 2013

There have been news reports, quoting the AERB press release of April 19, 2013, suggesting that something was wrong with the four valves of Passive Core Flooding System at Kudankulam 1&2. The facts in this regard are brought out in the proper perspective below: To quote the AERB Press Release posted at their website www.aerb.gov.in,

Quote

"In general, several thousand components are installed in a Nuclear Power Plant and as is normal for all complex engineering systems, occasional variation in their performances during commissioning trials is expected. The vey intent of such commissioning trials is to identify non-conformances, if any, and take corrective actions. The commissioning tests and results, including corrective actions taken are reviewed by AERB".

Unquote

The details of various stages of commissioning and the quality processes involved have been explained in NPCIL press release of April 19, 2013 which is available on its web site www.npcil.nic.in. The four valves of one type, in discussions, are part of passive core flooding system. These valves are passive in nature which do not require any motive power for their operation. Therefore, these are tested in situ in an integrated manner during commissioning of the system. These valves were initially tested in factory facilities in simulated conditions. However, as a normal industry practice the performance of components is evaluated under the operating conditions to ascertain their performance as per the design intent. During such testing by Kudankulam commissioning team of NPCIL, it was found that these valves showed variation from expected performance. The performance test reports and corrective actions were reported to AERB as a part of laid down procedures. These four valves have since been replaced and the performance reports are under review by the AERB.

It is clarified that during commissioning, testing of several systems to verify and fine tune the systems is taken up in parallel. It is reiterated that Kudankulam nuclear power plant safety is reinforced with a close scrutiny of performance of the components and taking corrective actions thereof, as intended in the commissioning process prior to operation of the plant.

Further commissioning activities in Kudankulam will be taken up in accordance with clearance accorded by AERB and approved procedures.

NPCIL as a responsible safety conscious organization will certainly not take any shortcuts to safety.


(N. Nagaich)
26-04-2013