



न्यूक्लियर पावर कॉर्पोरेशन ऑफ इंडिया लिमिटेड

NUCLEAR POWER CORPORATION OF INDIA LIMITED

(भारत सरकार का उद्यम A Government of India Enterprise)

काकरापार गुजरात स्थल Kakrapar Gujarat Site

डक: अणुमाहा, बाया: ध्यारा, जिला: सुरत, गुजरात - 394651
PO: Anumala, Via: Vyara, Dist: Surat, Gujarat-394651

ललित कुमार जैन, स्थल निदेशक

Lalit Kumar Jain, Site Director

फोन नंबर Phone No. : 02626 - 234245 / 231201

फैक्स Fax : 02626 - 234266 / 234268

ई-मेल E-mail : lkjain@npcil.co.in

No.KGuj.Site/Site Director/2016/ 81

March 22, 2016.

Press Release

Kakrapar Atomic Power Station Unit-1 (KAPS.1 – 220 MWe) was shut-down on March 11, 2016 following a leak in the Primary Heat Transport (PHT) system. The various safety systems came into play and the core cooling systems got actuated as per design. The reactor cooling was continuously maintained thereafter by systems provided in the design.

The various environmental matrices in and around the plant in the public domain were monitored for radioactivity by the Environmental Survey Laboratory of Bhabha Atomic Research Centre. **No increase in the radioactivity or radiation levels was observed in the plant premises or in the public domain since the occurrence of the incident.**

As per laid down procedures, the regulatory authority and concerned agencies were informed. A press statement was also issued in this regard promptly to keep the general public informed.

The reactor building was accessed and the source of the leak was identified to be from a coolant channel. The 220 MWe Pressurized Heavy Water Reactor (PHWR) core comprises of 306 coolant channels made of Zirconium-Niobium alloy, each of which houses 12 fuel bundles. The coolant flows through these channels, transferring the heat from the fuel to the steam generator to produce steam for driving the turbine to produce electricity.

The fuel bundles from the identified channel have since been removed (the channel defueled) using sophisticated remotely handled tools. The bundles have been inspected and found to be intact without any damage. The affected channel has since been isolated and the leak arrested. No worker involved in the operations was exposed to any undue radiation. The radiological conditions remain normal and cooling is being maintained in all the remaining channels. All the systems are operating normally and the unit is in a safe shutdown state.

The investigation will now be carried out to find the cause of the failure.

The unit will be restarted after completion of the investigation, inspection of relevant components and equipment and implementation of corrective actions, in line with the stage wise clearances of AERB. As per the prevailing practices, the lessons and recommendations that would emerge from the investigation would be suitably incorporated.


/22.3.2016
(Lalit Kumar Jain)