

IRRS Good Practices

Tailored module for countries embarking in a nuclear power programme (Module 12)

Poland – Initial Mission

Mission Date: September 2023

Good Practice

PAA (National Atomic Energy Agency of Poland) coordinated and conducted a simulation of an NPP construction license application assessment and issuance with international participation to enable PAA to identify and better prepare for several practical issues that may be encountered during licensing of the first NPP in Poland.

Observation

PAA conducted an innovative national “Advanced Licensing Exercise Project” (ALEP) with IAEA and US NRC assistance between 2018 and 2019 which proved to be an effective way to leverage experience and expertise with NPP construction to better prepare for NPP licensing activities in Poland.

Basis

1. BASIS: SSG-16 (Rev.1) Action 14 states that *“All relevant organizations should participate in the global nuclear safety regime.”*
2. BASIS: SSG-16 (Rev.1) Action 16 states that *“All relevant organizations should strengthen their cooperation on safety related matters with States that have advanced nuclear power programmes.”*

IAEA Comments/Highlights

In 2018 and 2019, PAA coordinated with IAEA and US-NRC experts a simulation of an AP-1000 NPP construction license application assessment and issuance. ALEP proved to be an effective way to leverage international experience and expertise with NPP construction to better prepare for NPP licensing activities in Poland.

This exercise resulted in improved understanding and competency in the application review and assessment process and enabled PAA to better prepare for several practical issues that may be encountered during licensing of the first NPP. The exercise enabled the identification of areas in existing regulations that needed to be improved, specific competency and human resource needs, areas where external technical support would be needed, areas where internal guidance for review and assessment of safety analyses was needed, etc.