

AEC Endorses Remodeling of HTTR

On September 19, the Atomic Energy Commission (AEC) submitted a report to the Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology (MEXT), in which it said that additional special operational modes and the remodeling of facilities ought to be approved in order to protect the High-Temperature Engineering Test Reactor (HTTR), as intended by the Japan Atomic Energy Agency (JAEA).

The special operational modes include tests that would halt three circulator units and a cooling facility for the reactor vessel, in association with tests on the reduction of flow in the primary system. Their purpose will be to demonstrate how negative reactivity feedback would cause lowered reactor output if the pressure vessel surface were to lose either its forced circulation-cooling or heat-removal systems. Remodeling work will be completed by the end of the year.

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