

Seismic Retrofitting Slated for Shika-2 NPS

The Hokuriku Electric Power Co. has announced that starting in November 2007, it will carry out additional work to improve seismic margins on its Shika-2 NPS (ABWR, 1,358MW), in the wake of the Niigata-Chuetsu Offshore Earthquake of July 16, 2007. The power utility had already carried out similar work on the unit in September 2007.

Having voluntarily initiated work to improve seismic margins at Unit 2 based on the Examination Guide for the Seismic Design of Nuclear Power Plants, which was revised in September 2006, Hokuriku Electric Power had completed that initially planned work just two months ago. The additional work will be carried out as a continuation. Seismic reinforcements and vibration isolators will be added to the piping, and reinforcements will be added to the electric circuits. As soon as the additional work at Unit 2 is completed, the power utility will consider similar work at Unit 1.

The measures to be taken in the wake of the Niigata-Chuetsu Offshore Earthquake include the following: (1) ground improvements for access roads to structures and facilities, which might be needed for firefighting; (2) installation of measuring equipment, which could substitute for monitoring posts; and (3) functional reinforcement of the door to the crisis task office. Ground improvement work will focus on backfilling parts of the roads to the sites of heavy-oil and light-oil tanks and transformers. Portable monitoring posts will be installed, enabling radiation dose rates to be monitored even if ordinary monitoring posts are not available.

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