

23rd March,2009

Press Release

NPCIL and GEH, USA sign MOU for Nuclear Power Reactors



Nuclear Power Corporation of India Limited (NPCIL) and GE Hitachi Nuclear Energy (GEH) signed an MOU for starting discussions on Techno-Commercial aspects of Advanced Boiling Water Reactor on 20th March, 2009.

The MOU between the two companies follows signing of the co - operation agreement between the Government of India and the Government of the United States of America in October last year.

NPCIL, a Government of India company, has acquired comprehensive capability in all facets of nuclear power reactors. NPCIL has at present 17 nuclear power reactors in operation and 5 nuclear power reactors are under advanced stages of construction. NPCIL has plans for a significant capacity addition in nuclear power generation. In addition to further indigenous Nuclear Power Program including construction of 700 MWe PHWRs, it has planned setting up of power reactors of 1000 MWe or higher unit size based on international cooperation.

The General Electric Company of USA built India's first nuclear reactors at Tarapur, Maharashtra during 1960s. GEH, based in the USA, is a global nuclear alliance created by GE and Hitachi, and is a provider of advanced boiling water reactors and nuclear services. Presently there are four ABWRs in operation and four more reactors under construction.

The agreement was signed by Mr. S.A. Bhardwaj, Director (Technical), NPCIL and Mr. Steven A. Hucik, Vice-President, Global Unified ABWR Projects, GEH in presence of Dr. S.K. Jain, Chairman & Managing Director of NPCIL and Mr. John Krenicki, Vice Chairman, GE.

The signing of this MOU is the first milestone in engagement of NPCIL and GEH for preparing the contract and related details of setting up of Advanced Boiling Water Reactors in India. NPCIL is also similarly engaged with Westinghouse Electric Company, USA for setting up of AP-1000 Reactors in India.

In addition to above, discussions are also actively going on with Atomstroyexport, RF for VVER-1000 reactors, and Areva France, for EPR type of reactors.

(A. I. Siddiqui)

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