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Daya Bay Enhances Notification Mechanism for Non-emergency Licensing Operational Events

Daya Bay Nuclear Power Station (Daya Bay) has committed to further enhance transparency in its operation in order to address the recent public concerns. With immediate effect, Hong Kong Nuclear Investment Company Limited (HKNIC) will publish information on non-emergency Licensing Operational Events (LOEs) through its website (<http://www.hknuclear.com>) within two working days after the Daya Bay Nuclear Power Operations & Management Company Limited (DNMC) has identified an LOE at the power station.

According to HKNIC, this is to address the public concern on nuclear safety and the operation of Daya Bay. Over the past few months, HKNIC has been working closely with the HKSAR Government and China Guangdong Nuclear Power Holding Corporation (CGNPC) to arrive at this new notification mechanism.

Under the new arrangement, information published through the HKNIC website will include an event summary of the LOE, a provisional rating and a preliminary appraisal of the impact to the environment and public safety. HKNIC will, at the same time, notify the Security Bureau and Environment Bureau of the HKSAR Government, which is an improvement to the existing monthly report through government representatives at the HKNIC Board.

LOEs of a non-emergency nature are considered LOEs which do not require emergency response. These include those Below Scale (Level 0) and Level 1 events under the International Nuclear Event Scale (INES) and Level 2 or above events which do not require emergency response. These events carry no nuclear safety consequences and have no impact on the external environment or public safety. For those events classified as Level 2 or above and requiring emergency response, actions will be taken by the Guangdong and HKSAR Governments and their related departments according to the established emergency response mechanism based on a cooperative agreement on emergency response for Daya Bay.

“During the past few months, HKNIC and CGNPC have evaluated the existing mechanism of information disclosure of Daya Bay’s LOEs. Although the existing practice well aligns with international practices, we fully recognize public concern on

nuclear safety. Even though LOEs of a non-emergency nature do not affect the safe operation of the nuclear power station and have no impact on the external environment and public safety, we shall render our full support to the newly established notification mechanism to release information of the events in a timely and proactive manner,” said Mr. S.H. Chan, Managing Director of HKNIC.

“We believe the new notification mechanism will help strengthen our communication with the public, and further enhance people’s understanding of the operation of nuclear power station. Going forward, HKNIC will continue to increase efforts on public education through plant visits, roving exhibitions, and an on-line education platform to generate better public understanding of nuclear power.” further added Mr. Chan.

Daya Bay is operated in accordance with best international practices, and has well established mechanisms and procedures in place to manage safe operation and staff development. As a result, it has an achieved excellent record of plant reliability, performance and safety over many years of operation. In particular, Daya Bay has achieved ahead its 2010 target on sent-out electricity, which exceeded 15,000 GWh, 70% of which was exported to Hong Kong to meet approximately 25% of the local demand, helping to avoid 7.5 million tonnes of carbon emission for the year. In addition, Unit 1 of Daya Bay has been operating safely for 3,000 consecutive days, which is world-class record among international counterparts. It also sets a record on the number of days of safe operation for a nuclear generating unit in the Mainland.

Hong Kong Nuclear Investment Company Limited (HKNIC)

HKNIC is a wholly owned subsidiary of CLP Holdings Ltd. founded in 1983. It is an investor in the Guangdong Nuclear Power Joint Venture Company Ltd., which owns the Guangdong Daya Bay Nuclear Power Station located in China’s Guangdong Province. Daya Bay supplies 70% of its annual output to meet about 25% of the power demand in Hong Kong, contributing to CLP’s excellent power services with high supply reliability, outstanding environmental performance and affordable tariffs.






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Appendix:

International Practice of Public Disclosure of Licensing Operational Events

Country / Region	Company	Practice
Britain 	British Energy	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Quarterly disclosure by the regulator (HSE)
Canada 	Ontario Power Generation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Quarterly disclosure by the plant operator
France 	EDF	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Disclosure of events at Level 1 & above by the regulator (ASN) Selective disclosure of events at Level 0 (e.g. events that may attract public interests) No specific timing requirement for public disclosure (e.g. from a few days to 45 days)
Japan 	Tokyo Electric & Kansai Electric	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Monthly disclosure by the plant operator
Hong Kong (Daya Bay) 	HKNIC	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Monthly disclosure of event statistics Monthly description of events at Level 1

The Current and New Notification Mechanisms for Non-emergency Licensing Operational Events at Daya Bay

	Current	New
Timing / Channel	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Via HKNIC website on around the 15th of each month 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Via HKNIC website within two working days after identifying a non-emergency LOE
Scope / Information	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The number of Level 0 events Both the number and summaries of Level 1 events 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> All non-emergency LOEs, including all Level 0 and Level 1 events; and Level 2 or above events which do not require emergency response: Information disclosed include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Preliminary rating Event summary Preliminary appraisal of impacts to the environment and public safety
Below Level 0 events	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Under current practice, information of below Level 0 event is not published 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> HKNIC will arrange appropriate disclosure where necessary for matters which are below Level 0, but may still cause public concern (eg. minor earthquake, typhoon or fire break out near the nuclear power plant)
Supplementary information	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No standard arrangement for provision of supplementary information 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> HKNIC to post such supplementary information as event details, impacts and follow-up action if necessary after DNMC submitted a written report to the National Nuclear Safety Administration
Notification to HKSAR Government	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> HKNIC's monthly report to its Board (with 2 Government representatives) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> HKNIC to notify the Security Bureau and Environment Bureau within two working days after identifying of the event by DNMC while publishing information through its website