Ongkharak Nuclear Research Center - The Role of the Consultant

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Abstract:

The Ongkharak Nuclear Research Center Project is known to have started on 26 June 1997. At that date the Contract for the turnkey delivery of the three nuclear facilities, the Reactor Island (RI), Isotope Production Facility (IPF) and the Waste Processing and Storage Facilities (WPSF), was signed by the Office of Atomic Energy for Peace (OAEP) with General Atomics (GA). The involvement of the Consultant - Electrowatt Engineering Ltd. (EWE) - already started more than 2 years earlier than the official start of this ambitious project. Since mid 1995 EWE has been serving in a variety of functions and has been requested to perform numerous tasks in support of OAEP. By acting in the function of the Consultant, EWE was aiming firstly to help the project to proceed as quickly as possible. Secondly EWE was overseeing constantly that the quality of the Center, once finished, will meet the present state of the art, will be licensable in Thailand (or elsewhere) and will be internationally recognised as a safe, reliable and modern research and production installation.

The role of EWE covers a multitude of engineering disciplines, such as architecture; civil, mechanical, nuclear, I&C and electrical engineering; nuclear and reactor physics; chemistry and radiopharmacy; economy and price estimation. Besides, EWE has to use its skills in conducting and/or supervising large projects, e.g., by appropriate scheduling, QA surveys, licensing support, document control, etc. Furthermore, EWE is actively involved in know-how transfer to Thai engineers and scientists by working in close co-operation with OAEP's project personnel and - if required - by giving special training courses.

This paper presents some highlights as well as routine activities performed by EWE so far in the Project.