

IAEA Press Releases

Press Release 2008/21

IAEA Completes Third Mission to Kashiwazaki-Kariwa Nuclear Power Plant

5 December 2008 | An IAEA-led team of international experts has completed its third mission, at the invitation of the Government of Japan. This follow-up mission continued to share the lessons learned from the effects of the July 2007 earthquake of the Kashiwazaki-Kariwa nuclear power plant.

The mission received further evidence confirming the findings of previous missions regarding the safe performance of the plant during and after the earthquake.

The mission found that there is consensus in the scientific community about the causes of the unexpectedly large ground motions experienced at the plant site during the July 2007 earthquake and, consequently, it has been possible to identify the precautions needed to be taken in relation to possible future events.

These precautions were based on extensive studies and assessments conducted by a number of specialized institutions and experts in different fields. The necessary upgrades and actions were consequently defined and are being implemented by the Japanese utility for both safety and non-safety related components at the nuclear power plant.

The lessons learned from the Kashiwazaki-Kariwa experience has also contributed to the development of IAEA Safety Standards related to seismic safety. These standards are expected to be released shortly.

The mission's report will be provided to the Japanese Nuclear and Industrial Safety Agency (NISA) and will be made publicly available in January 2009.

The IAEA conducted two previous missions to the Kashiwazaki-Kariwa NPP in August 2007 and January/February 2008.

The experience from recent strong seismic events and the lessons learned through the missions to Kashiwazaki-Kariwa NPP have led to the establishment of an International Seismic Safety Centre (ISSC) at the IAEA that is working as a focal point for seismic safety-related information about nuclear installations.

Related Resources:

- » January 2008 IAEA Report: *Follow-up IAEA Mission in Relation to the Findings and Lessons Learned from the 16 July 2007 Earthquake at Kashiwazaki-Kariwa NPP*. [Volume I](#) [pdf]
- » August 2007 IAEA Report: *Preliminary Findings and Lessons Learned from the 16 July*

2007 Earthquake at Kashiwazaki-Kariwa NPP. [Volume I](#) | [Volume II](#) [pdf]

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