Korea Hydro and Nuclear Power Company, Ltd Training

Sandia National Laboratories trains Korea Hydro and Nuclear Power staff in repository science.

Korea Hydro and Nuclear Power Co., Ltd. (KHNP), a large electric company based in the Republic of Korea, operates 20 nuclear power plants and has 8 more planned or under construction. The Korean government has given KHNP responsibility for permanent disposal of nuclear waste. The company has turned to Sandia’s Defense Waste Management Programs in Carlsbad, NM to lead an educational project for its staff on repository sciences based on Sandia’s well-known expertise in the field. Sandia has supported repository development efforts in U.S., Korea, Japan, Taiwan, Belgium, Canada, and the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA). Sandia provided the scientific understanding and documentation that formed the basis upon which U.S. Environmental Protection Agency eventually certified the Waste Isolation Pilot Plant (WIPP) site in 1998, and Sandia was the lead in submitting the Yucca Mountain Project (YMP) license application in 2008.

Sandia has taken the knowledge and capability developed over the last 30 years and developed a comprehensive training program covering the fundamental elements of waste repository development. The training program is aimed at providing attendees with the necessary background for the development of a successful waste repository. Training topics have included essential background in the fundamentals of radioactivity as well as regulatory requirements, quality assurance, waste characterization and classification, repository siting and characterization, and waste packaging and transport. Moreover, conceptual and numerical models utilized in the operation of WIPP and the license application for the YMP have been fundamental components of the training. Sandia has developed partnerships with the Korea Radioactive Waste Management Corporation (KRMC), the Korea Hydro and Nuclear Power Co. Ltd (KHNP), and the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA). Visiting scientists from these organizations have been hosted at Sandia facilities to participate in the repository training program. The interaction was hugely beneficial.

Building on its experience in successful repository science, Sandia is positioned to expand work in this area and provide exceptional service worldwide.

For more information, please contact:
Janis Trone
E-mail: jstrone@sandia.gov
Phone: (505) 284-5357
Website: energy.sandia.gov