

Vendor Inspections Cooperation Working Group

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C O N T E N T

1. Arrangement of qualification inspection system for vendors of products for Russian NPPs

- Construction of NPP abroad
- Vendors selection process
- Competitive selection process

2. Inspections objectives

3. Inspection results

4. Assessment of foreign suppliers

5. Accomplishing the above objectives with provide for:

6. Conclusion

Arrangement of qualification inspection system for vendors of products for Russian NPPs

Rostechnadzor

(Government Authority for Regulation of nuclear and radiation safety in nuclear field)

- development of safety Codes and Standards, granting licenses to enterprises designing and manufacturing NPP equipment
- Conduct of inspections to check compliance with licenses conditions and requirements of safety Codes and Standards
- FSUE VO "Safety" - routine random inspection of quality in the process of equipment manufacture

State Corporation Rosatom

(Management of atomic energy)

Tendering for NPP equipment supply in accordance with the Unified Industry Procurement Standard, preliminary selection of vendors

Construction of NPP abroad

Rostechnadzor - assisting in safety regulation

- **Scientific and Engineering Center for Nuclear and Radiation Safety (SEC NRS) - assisting in development of regulatory documents**
- **FSUE VO "Safety" - services for assessment of vendors and manufactured equipment quality**

Prime contractor of NPP construction abroad is authorized by the State Corporation Rosatom to carry out activities on NPP design, erection and commissioning, as well preliminary inspection of vendors and tendering for NPP equipment supply.

Process of vendors selection

Inspections conducted at the licensing stage, tendering procedures and inspections in the process of production often have different scope of activities (depending on assigned tasks and enterprise experience in nuclear field) and under different programs not fully coordinated among one another (at different stages of selection process).

Specifically programs of Russian and foreign vendors selection may differ because different assessment criteria related to specific production and technology may be used in assessment thereof.

Approaches to assessment of Russian and foreign vendors differ in principle.

Competitive selection process

State Corporation Rosatom system

The following shall be done in accordance with the Unified Industry Procurement Standard:

- Tendering for NPP equipment supply as per established procedures and criteria
- Preliminary assessment and inspection (if necessary) of vendors, **rather than subsuppliers and co-performers.**
- Keeping register of dishonest vendors (Law FZ-94)

Basic criteria of equipment supply application assessment

- Contract price and time of delivery
- Product quality and functions characteristics
- Participants qualification
- Participants technical capabilities
- Availability of personnel
- Availability of Rostekhnadzor license for a respective kind of activity
- Participant's experience and reputation

Inspection objectives

1. Establishing technical and organizational capability of an enterprise to carry out activities in nuclear field (preliminary inspection)

Development of enterprise's passport (certificate) or a similar document

2. Checking production preparedness in concluding a specific delivery agreement. Establishing co-performers and subcontractors. Assessment of enterprise Quality System and its preparedness to start work

Availability of real conditions to fulfill an order (prior inspection of equipment compliance). Availability of vendors register.

3. Random inspection of the current enterprise system of launching production of equipment (to be delivered) in the course of conformity assessment

Spot tests of product with the aim to confirm its quality

Inspection can be conducted under a special program with account of enterprise specific features and with participation of a specialized organization and representatives of other countries' regulators

Revealing deficiencies in product control system, quality management system, documentation and personnel qualification. Development of inspection methodical procedure

Results of inspections

The following shall be done as a result of inspections:

1. Obtain and analyse information with the aim to develop a conceptual document (approach) to assessment of vendors using working groups for processing and analysis of obtained information. Analysis criteria shall be formulated and means to improve inspections procedures shall be established in the document

2. Set up a graded approach to inspection programs of the enterprises:

- having working experience in the field of nuclear power**
- not having claims to the quality of previously manufactured product**
- have not manufactured products for NPP before**
- having capabilities to fully satisfy customers requirements**

Assessment of foreign vendors

While evaluating foreign vendors and inspecting their preparedness to launch manufacture we check the matters of compliance of Customers' regulatory documents requirements with the requirements of national and international standards.

In Russia vendor's capabilities are assessed in accordance with the requirements of Rostekhnadzor document RD-03-36-2002 "Terms and conditions of delivery of imported equipment, products, materials, and component parts for nuclear facilities, radiation sources, and storage sites of the Russian Federation", and namely:

- Comparison is done of the Russian Federation documents requirements with the requirement of national and international documents used by a vendor
- Methods and procedures of items quality control are compared with the requirements of respective Russian documents
- Analysis of delivery contracts contents is made.

Accomplishment of the above objectives will:

1. Provide for a unified approach and criteria of assessment of vendors of products for NPP
2. Define a minimal list of tests (acceptance, qualification, etc.) for a particular product
3. Establish optimal time frame and frequency of inspections and define a graded approach to inspections conduct and content
4. Make it possible to create an accessible information data base of vendors (on international and bilateral basis)
5. Enable involvement of other countries organizations, WG participants in vendors assessment

Conclusion

At present the current Russian system of product vendors selection provides for control of supply of high quality and reliable equipment for NPPs

At the same time there are some problems in selection and evaluation of vendors manufacturing metallurgical products and component items not only for nuclear branch, but for other industries

Besides, due to the absence of complete information, the process of selection and assessment of foreign vendors is complicated

Availability of common approaches and vendor assessment criteria, as well as unified information data base on European vendors may considerably improve the quality of their selection and increase the efficiency of satisfaction of quality requirements to products for NPPs.