



Supporting Nuclear Power Infrastructure Capacity Building in Member States Introducing and Expanding Nuclear Power

The four week course on comprehensive introduction to Nuclear Power at the Nuclear Power Institute (NPI) is designed to provide an overview of issues related to development of a Nuclear Power Program (NPP) in a "newcomer" country. The issues included presentations on the nuclear knowledge management and Safety Culture, Past Nuclear Accidents and Lessons Learnt, communications principle, strategies for the Nuclear Industry, sourcing for a new nuclear power plant, Nuclear Fuel Cycle as well as Radioactive Waste Storage and management. Other lecturers included Small Modular Reactors (SMR), legal framework, need for a strong Independent Regulatory Body, Nuclear Risk Management and Nuclear Education. These were presented by experts in their fields.

We also travelled out to Wharton County to see how the safety culture, community acceptance and student outreach play a major role in a successful NPP operation and Bay City in south Texas to visit a Nuclear Power station and a two-year educational institution which offers training of technical workers for employment in a nuclear plant.

The training programme that included lectures, site visits, tours, laboratory experience in nuclear facilities has given me the opportunity to learn the basic and technical aspects of nuclear sciences and technology. The fellowship training has equipped me with more information and understanding of requirements and regulatory skills for licensing an NPP. I also obtain knowledge, the skills and abilities needed for a successful development of a nuclear power programme in a newcomer country (Nigeria).

The fellowship has further developed my understanding of the need for nuclear education. I also discovered the political impact of nuclear power programmes and projects. The fellowship has given me a better understanding of the actions needed to satisfy IAEA requirements for legal and regulatory framework, leadership and management, siting related issues and implication including impact of economy, engineering and environment in site selection, nuclear safety culture, public communications, human



resource development and emergency preparedness relevant to a new Nuclear Power project. It provided a forum for myself and other participants to discuss our national infrastructure and to share experience and knowledge. It familiarized me with the legal and institutional instruments used to regulate nuclear sector as well as the potential risks and benefits of nuclear power.

I will be able to work in teams on specific aspects relevant for nuclear power sector and communicate with the public on nuclear issues in an understandable way. The fellowship training has enable me develop competence in carrying out regulatory oversight function on the future nuclear power plant in Nigeria in such a way as to achieve safety and in accordance with international best practices.

The host institute and the learning environment chosen for the fellowship training is suitable and perfect. The mentors are friendly and supportive. The accomodation is close to the host institute, making it easier for the participants to attend lectures timely, though the sanitation and services at the hotel is very poor. Assisntance from the IAEA is perfect, but needs to be reviewed.

Finally, I want to appreciate the IAEA for giving me the opportunity and assisntance attaining this fellowship.

IDONGESIT AKWAOWO ODUNG

NIGERIA

PROJECT NIR-14019

11/24/2014 — 12/19/2014