

Security Exercises

The NRC sets the rules and then tests the security response at nuclear power facilities with security performance evaluations often called “force-on-force” exercises. In these exercises, a specially trained mock adversary force “attacks” the facility. In 2004, the NRC implemented more realistic force-on-force exercises on a more aggressive schedule that tests facilities more frequently (at least every 3 years) and under more challenging expectations. Since late 2004, nearly 40 of these full-scale exercises have been conducted under this enhanced evaluation program and a report on the program was sent to Congress in July 2006. Efforts are ongoing to further enhance realism and “lessons learned” from these exercises. For example, the NRC is working with the nuclear industry, State and local responders, and DHS to include more security-based event scenarios into emergency preparedness drills and exercises. The NRC is also considering the use of a technically advanced simulation tool used by the Department of Defense to simulate joint military exercises. This technology can help the NRC and its nuclear plants analyze and improve physical security by modeling different attack scenarios on specific facilities.

Source: Nuclear Regulatory Commission <http://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/doc-collections/fact-sheets/security-enhancements.html>