



Exelon to Terminate Wackenhut Security Contract at Peach Bottom

KENNETT SQUARE, Pa., Sept. 24 /PRNewswire/ -- Exelon Nuclear today gave Wackenhut Nuclear Security notice that it will terminate its contract to manage security forces at the Peach Bottom Atomic Power Station. This follows an internal investigation in connection with Wackenhut security officers being video-recorded sleeping or otherwise inattentive in a station ready room, the company announced today.

"This is not acceptable and we will not tolerate it," said Exelon Generation Chief Operating Officer Chris Crane. "I want to be clear that nothing has happened at Peach Bottom that represents a security or safety threat to the public. We are dealing with unacceptable behavior, and we will fix it."

While the most prominent step is removing Wackenhut at Peach Bottom, "we have taken and will take additional measures to prevent this from recurring," Crane said.

A broad review of security management by Wackenhut is underway at all of Exelon Nuclear's 10 operating nuclear energy sites. At Peach Bottom, employees are being informed of the decision and related changes.

"We have a high level of confidence in the vast majority of the security forces who guard our plants," Crane said. "These are well-trained, dedicated security professionals. Our immediate concern is with how they are managed and the performance standards they are asked to meet."

Exelon is cooperating with the NRC in the matter and has brought in outside experts to participate in the internal investigation, which began immediately after the company received its first information about the inattentive officers.

The video images of inattentive officers were taken in what is known as a "ready room," or assembly room, a secured location within Peach Bottom where they are allowed to read, study, eat or relax but remain ready to respond to a plant location if called upon. It is used as a break room at certain times. The videos appear to have been taken two to six months ago.

The videos that Exelon officials viewed showed security officers in the assembly room nodding off or sleeping, which is not allowed at any time. The inattentive officers were sitting in chairs.

"It is important for us to emphasize again that the actions we have seen on the videotape and found in our internal inquiry did not directly impact the safety and security of the plant," Crane said. "However, we will not accept, we will not allow, any member of our security force to be anything other than fully alert at all times on duty. This is a long-standing and well-understood principle on which we will never compromise."

Exelon Nuclear has procedures and guidelines in place to prevent inattentiveness among its security forces, which protect nuclear stations 24 hours a day. Work hours are carefully monitored to prevent fatigue. In addition, officers are regularly rotated among stations and must check in with a supervisor regularly.

Exelon Nuclear has begun transitioning security forces at Peach Bottom to a new in-house security organization that will handle station security.

Exelon Corporation is one of the nation's largest electric utilities with approximately 5.4 million customers and more than \$15 billion in annual revenues. The company has one of the industry's largest portfolios of electricity generation capacity, with a nationwide reach and strong positions in the Midwest and Mid-Atlantic. Exelon distributes electricity to approximately 5.4 million customers in Illinois and Pennsylvania and

natural gas to more than 480,000 customers in southeastern Pennsylvania. Exelon is headquartered in Chicago and trades on the NYSE under the ticker EXC.

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