

NRC NEWS

U.S. NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

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NRC SCHEDULES MEETING TO DISCUSS OVERSIGHT OF CONSTRUCTION AT NEW VOGTLE NUCLEAR PLANT UNITS

The U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission staff has scheduled a meeting for Wednesday, May 23, to discuss the agency's oversight of construction activities at the two new nuclear power plant units at the Vogtle site. When completed, the two new units will be operated by Southern Nuclear Operating Company, the company which operates the two existing units at the same site near Waynesboro, Ga., about 26 miles southeast of Augusta.

The meeting, which is open to the public, will begin with an open house at 6 p.m. at Augusta Technical College's Waynesboro/Burke Campus, 216 Highway 24 South in Waynesboro. The open house will allow those attending to talk informally to NRC staff members and will be followed by a presentation on construction oversight at 7 p.m. After the presentation, NRC staff will also be available to answer questions and listen to comments about the agency's role in the construction of the new units.

The NRC staff will be discussing new reactor construction oversight including inspection, assessment, enforcement and the verification process. The NRC has three construction resident inspectors at the Vogtle site, supplemented by additional inspectors from the regional office in Atlanta and NRC headquarters in Rockville, Md. The agency is responsible for inspecting and verifying that new nuclear plants are constructed according to their approved design, combined license and NRC regulations.

The NRC staff issued combined operating licenses for two AP1000 reactors at the Vogtle site earlier this year. Southern Nuclear submitted its application for those units in March 2008.

Additional information on the NRC construction reactor oversight process can be found at www.nrc.gov/reactors/new-reactors/oversight/crop.html.

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NOTE: Anyone wishing to take photos or use a camera to record any portion of a NRC meeting should contact the Office of Public Affairs beforehand.

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