



NRC NEWS

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OFFICE OF PUBLIC AFFAIRS, REGION II

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NRC STAFF AND DUKE ENERGY TO DISCUSS CORRECTIVE ACTIONS FOR TWO OCONEE NUCLEAR PLANT WHITE FINDINGS

Nuclear Regulatory Commission officials will meet with Duke Energy management at 10:30 a.m. on Monday, October 4, at the Oconee nuclear plant site, 155 E. Pickens Highway in Seneca, S.C., to discuss a supplemental inspection which examined the company's corrective actions associated with two earlier findings.

The meeting will be open to public observation, and NRC officials will be available prior to the close of the meeting to answer questions from interested observers.

The supplemental inspection, conducted in August, was performed to assess the licensee's problem identification, root cause evaluation, extent of condition determination and corrective actions associated with two white findings in the mitigating systems cornerstone of the NRC oversight program. The white findings involved the inadequate installation of some electrical connectors on a Unit 3 pump and potential problems with the pressurizers for all three Oconee units. A "white" finding on the agency's "green, white, yellow, red" safety significance scale, means the issue is considered to have a low to moderate impact on plant safety.

"The plant continues to be operated safely and we're satisfied the company has addressed the deficiencies," said Len Wert, NRC Region II Deputy Director of the Division of Reactor Projects, "but we want to hear what they have to say about what our inspectors saw as a lack of thoroughness in their corrective action process as it related to these findings."

Additional details on the white findings and supplemental inspection are available from the NRC public affairs office in Region II or through the agency's ADAMS document system at www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/adams.html. Help in using ADAMS is available by contacting the NRC Public Document Room at 301-415-4737 or 1-800-397-4209.

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