



NRC NEWS

U. S. NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

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NRC TO DISCUSS PERFORMANCE FOR WOLF CREEK NUCLEAR PLANT

Nuclear Regulatory Commission staff will meet with representatives of the Wolf Creek Nuclear Operating Corp. on June 9 to discuss the results of the agency's assessment of safety performance at the Wolf Creek nuclear plant. The facility is located near Burlington, Kan.

The meeting is scheduled to begin at 6:30 p.m. at the Coffey County Library, 410 Juniatta Street, Burlington. Before the session is adjourned, NRC staff will be available to answer questions from the public on the plant's safety performance, as well as the agency's role in ensuring safe operation of the facility.

"Each year the NRC staff evaluates the performance of each of the nation's commercial nuclear plants," said Region IV Administrator Bruce S. Mallett. "This meeting gives us a chance to discuss our assessment with the company, local officials and residents near the plant. We want to make this information available to the public and answer any questions people may have about the plant."

Overall, Wolf Creek operated safely during 2004. The NRC uses color-coded inspection findings and performance indicators to assess nuclear plant performance. The colors start with "green" and increase to "white," "yellow," and "red," according to the safety significance of the issues involved.

As all of the plant's inspection findings and performance indicators were "green" during 2004, Wolf Creek will receive the baseline, or normal level of inspections during 2005. Baseline inspections are performed by the NRC Resident Inspectors assigned to the plant and by inspection specialists from the Region IV office and the agency's headquarters in Rockville, Md.

A letter sent from the NRC Region IV Office in Arlington, Texas, to plant officials will serve as the basis for the meeting. It is available on the NRC web site at:
http://www.nrc.gov/NRR/OVERSIGHT/ASSESS/LETTERS/wc_2004q4.pdf .

Current information for Wolf Creek is available at:
http://www.nrc.gov/NRR/OVERSIGHT/ASSESS/WC/wc_chart.html .

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