



NRC NEWS

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NRC STAFF TO MEET WITH TVA TO DISCUSS INSPECTION OF BROWNS FERRY NUCLEAR POWER PLANT

The Nuclear Regulatory Commission staff has scheduled a meeting with officials of the Tennessee Valley Authority at 1 p.m. (CST) on Tuesday, Jan. 6 to discuss the results of a supplemental inspection of the Browns Ferry nuclear power plant near Athens, Ala.

The meeting, which is open to the public, will be held in the Browns Ferry Training Center Auditorium at the plant site. NRC officials will be available to answer questions from the public after the business portion of the meeting.

A supplemental inspection is one that is added to the NRC's normal, or baseline, inspection program in response to declining regulatory performance. The inspection at Browns Ferry will provide information the NRC will use to determine the full extent of the issues at the plant which led to the declining performance and whether additional agency actions are needed.

The supplemental inspection of the plant was scheduled after Browns Ferry Unit 1 had a moderately degraded or "yellow" performance indicator in late 2007 due to a high number of automatic shutdowns. Previous NRC inspections evaluated the causes of the shutdowns and did not identify any significant issues that would impact plant safety.

Browns Ferry Unit 1 is no longer in the NRC's degraded category, but the agency's oversight program requires the more detailed supplemental inspection that will be the subject of the Jan. 6 meeting.

Copies of the inspection report will be available from the NRC Region II office or from the agency's document system (ADAMS) at www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/adams.html.

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