



NRC NEWS

U.S. NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

Office of Public Affairs, Region II
61 Forsyth Street SW, Atlanta GA 30303
Web Site: www.nrc.gov

No. II-09-019

CONTACT: Roger Hannah (404) 562-4417
Joey Ledford (404) 562-4416

April 3, 2009

E-mail: OPA2@nrc.gov

NRC SCHEDULES OPEN HOUSE TO ANSWER QUESTIONS ON 2008 PERFORMANCE OF SEQUOYAH NUCLEAR POWER PLANT

The U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission staff has scheduled an open house for Wednesday, April 15, and will be available to discuss and answer questions about the agency's assessment of safety performance during 2008 at the Sequoyah nuclear power plant. The plant, operated by the Tennessee Valley Authority, is located about 10 miles northeast of Chattanooga near the town of Soddy Daisy, Tenn.

The open house is informal and scheduled to run from 5-7 p.m. in the training center near the plant.

NRC staff will be available to answer questions on the safety performance of the Sequoyah plant, as well as the NRC role in ensuring safe plant operation.

"Throughout the year, we inspect and review the performance of the Sequoyah plant and all commercial nuclear plants," NRC Region II Administrator Luis Reyes said. "We issue several inspection reports during the year and an overall annual assessment. This open house allows us to discuss that assessment with local officials and people near the plant, and answer any questions they may have."

A letter sent from the NRC Region II office to plant officials addresses the performance of the plant during 2008 and will serve as the basis for the meeting discussion. It is available on the NRC web site at: www.nrc.gov/NRR/OVERSIGHT/ASSESS/LETTERS/seq_2008q4.pdf.

The NRC found that Sequoyah's 2008 performance met all NRC safety objectives. This year, the NRC plans to continue to conduct the very detailed inspections required at those plants operating well. In addition, the agency will complete some generic inspections, in areas ranging from operator licensing examinations to spent fuel storage installation and ground water protection at Sequoyah in 2009.

Performance at both Sequoyah units for all of 2008 was at a level that resulted in no additional NRC oversight.

Current performance information for Sequoyah Unit 1 is available on the NRC web site at: www.nrc.gov/NRR/OVERSIGHT/ASSESS/SEQ1/seq1_chart.html . Current performance information for Unit 2 is at: www.nrc.gov/NRR/OVERSIGHT/ASSESS/SEQ2/seq2_chart.html .

###