



NRC NEWS

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Office of Public Affairs, Region II
245 Peachtree Center Ave., NE, Suite 1200
Atlanta, GA 30303-1257
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CONTACT: Roger Hannah (404) 997-4417
Joey Ledford (404) 997-4416

E-mail: OPA2@nrc.gov

NRC SCHEDULES MEETING TO DISCUSS 2010 PERFORMANCE ASSESSMENT FOR OCONEE NUCLEAR POWER PLANT

The U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission staff has scheduled a meeting for Tuesday, April 19, to discuss the agency's assessment of safety performance during 2010 at the Oconee nuclear power plant. The plant, operated by Duke Energy, is near Seneca, S.C., about 30 miles west of Greenville, S.C.

The meeting, in the Oconee World of Energy, 7812 Rochester Highway in Seneca, will begin with a short presentation at 6:30 p.m., followed by an informal open house ending at 8 p.m.

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

"The NRC evaluates nuclear power plants in a systemic and detailed way every year," said NRC Region II Administrator Victor McCree. "The inspections and oversight at Oconee ensure that the plant is operated in a way that protects people and the environment."

A letter sent from the NRC Region II office to plant officials addresses the performance of the plant during 2010 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/oco_2010q4.pdf.

The NRC found that the Oconee plant met all NRC safety objectives during 2010, and performance for all three units was at a level that did not require any more than the detailed baseline NRC inspections. In addition, the agency will complete some generic inspections related to spent fuel storage and reactor coolant system maintenance. Operator licensing examinations will also be conducted. The NRC staff will also continue its review of ongoing significant modifications to the plant.

Current performance information for Oconee Unit 1 is available on the NRC web site at: www.nrc.gov/NRR/OVERSIGHT/ASSESS/OCO1/oco1_chart.html. Current information for Units 2 and 3 is at: www.nrc.gov/NRR/OVERSIGHT/ASSESS/OCO2/oco2_chart.html and www.nrc.gov/NRR/OVERSIGHT/ASSESS/OCO3/oco3_chart.html.

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