



NRC NEWS

U.S. NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

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61 Forsyth Street SW, Atlanta GA 30303
Web Site: www.nrc.gov

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

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E-mail: OPA2@nrc.gov

NRC SCHEDULES REGULATORY CONFERENCE TO DISCUSS BROWNS FERRY NUCLEAR PLANT FIRE PROTECTION ISSUES

The Nuclear Regulatory Commission staff has scheduled a regulatory conference with officials of the Tennessee Valley Authority on Feb. 22 to discuss three fire protection inspection findings at the Browns Ferry nuclear power plant, located near Athens, Ala., about 32 miles west of Huntsville.

NRC and TVA officials will discuss the significance of the findings, two of which involve failures to take adequate measures to protect equipment in the event of a fire. The third finding relates to a revision of the plant's fire procedures which reduced their effectiveness.

The NRC evaluates regulatory performance at commercial nuclear power plants with a color-coded system which classifies findings as green, white, yellow or red, in increasing order of safety significance. The NRC's preliminary evaluation determined that these issues at Browns Ferry are "greater than green," meaning they have more than very low safety significance.

No decisions on the final safety significance, any apparent violations or possible enforcement action will be made at the conference. Those decisions will be made by NRC officials at a later time.

The regulatory conference is scheduled for 1 p.m. EST in the NRC's Region II office, located on the 24th floor of the Atlanta Federal Center at 61 Forsyth Street SW in Atlanta. The public is invited to observe and NRC officials will be available to answer questions. Persons wishing to participate in this meeting by toll-free audio teleconference should contact the NRC's Rebecca Nease at 404-562-4530 or Rebecca.Nease@nrc.gov.

The NRC inspection report is publicly available online at www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/adams/web-based.html. The number to access the report is ML100201056.

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