



NRC NEWS

U.S. NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

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NRC TO MEET WITH NFS TO DISCUSS APPARENT VIOLATIONS STEMMING FROM OCTOBER 2009 EVENT

The U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission staff has scheduled a predecisional enforcement conference in Atlanta for Tuesday, July 13 with officials of Nuclear Fuel Services in Erwin, Tenn.

The meeting is being held to discuss apparent violations of NRC requirements associated with the augmented inspection of an Oct. 13, 2009 incident at the NFS facility. It will begin at 1 p.m. at the NRC Region II office in Atlanta, located in the Marquis One Tower at 245 Peachtree Center Ave., NE. The meeting will be open to observation by the public, and NRC officials will be available at its conclusion to answer questions.

On Oct. 13, 2009, during work on a commercial process line, a chemical reaction occurred during the dissolution of scrap material, resulting in unexpected levels of heat and the release of nitrogen compound gas fumes within the facility. No one was injured. The NRC dispatched a Special Inspection Team to the facility to investigate the event and within days, escalated the effort by adding additional inspectors to form an Augmented Inspection Team. That team identified some issues resulting in the apparent violations to be discussed at the enforcement conference.

No decision on enforcement action will be made at the meeting. NRC officials will review information presented by NFS at the meeting and reach a decision on appropriate regulatory action at a later date.

The NRC AIT inspection report is available through the Region II office or through the NRC Web page at www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/adams.html. The number to access the document is ML100780127.

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