



NRC NEWS

UNITED STATES NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION
OFFICE OF PUBLIC AFFAIRS, REGION II

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No. II-07-24

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April 25, 2007

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NRC TO MEET WITH WESTINGHOUSE NUCLEAR FUEL PLANT OFFICIALS TO DISCUSS FACILITY SAFETY PERFORMANCE

Nuclear Regulatory Commission officials will meet with officials of the Westinghouse commercial nuclear fuel plant in Columbia, S.C., on Thursday, April 26, to discuss the agency's latest review of the facility's safety performance.

The meeting, which is open to the public, is scheduled to begin at 10:00 a.m. in the Red Room of the South Carolina State Museum, located at 301 Gervais Street in Columbia. The NRC staff will present the results of the review and be available to respond to questions or comments from the public before the close of the meeting.

The NRC staff will discuss with Westinghouse safety performance in the major areas of safety operations, radiological controls, facility support and special topics. The evaluation covers a period from Feb. 18, 2006, through Feb. 12, 2007.

The review found that Westinghouse had conducted its activities safely during the period of review. The NRC said Westinghouse's human performance improvement efforts, which included retraining and re-qualification of operators, implementation of a rigorous audit program, improvements to the plant's corrective action program, and improved implementation of the quality assurance program, contributed to an overall improvement in performance.

The NRC has determined that, based on plant performance during the period of evaluation, no additional inspection effort will be required this year, and the agency has implemented its regular inspection program for the Westinghouse category of fuel fabrication facility.

A copy of the NRC letter to Westinghouse which outlines details of the review is available by contacting OPA2@nrc.gov or from the NRC web site at <http://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/adams/web-based.html> as document ML060750108.

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