



NRC NEWS

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

61 Forsyth Street SW, Atlanta GA 30303

Web Site: www.nrc.gov

No. II-06-029

CONTACT: Ken Clark (404)562-4416
Roger Hannah (404)562-4417

May 2, 2006

E-mail: OPA2@nrc.gov

NRC TO DISCUSS 2005 PERFORMANCE AT HARRIS NUCLEAR PLANT

The Nuclear Regulatory Commission staff is scheduled to meet with Progress Energy officials on Tuesday, May 23, to discuss the agency's assessment of safety performance last year at the Harris nuclear power plant, located southwest of Raleigh, N.C.

The meeting, which is open to the public, is scheduled to begin at 7:00 p.m. in the New Horizons Fellowship Annex, 820 E. Williams St. (Highway 55) in Apex. The NRC staff will present the results of the assessment and be available to respond to questions or comments from the public.

"The NRC continually reviews the performance of the Harris plant and the nation's other commercial nuclear power facilities," NRC Region II Administrator William Travers said. "This meeting is a chance for us to discuss that safety performance with the company, with local officials and with people living near the plant."

A March 2nd letter from the NRC Region II Office to plant officials addresses the performance of the plant during the period 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/har_2005q4.pdf.

The NRC uses color-coded inspection findings and performance indicators to assess nuclear plant performance. The colors start with "green" and then increase to "white," "yellow" or "red," depending on the safety significance of the issues involved.

The Harris plant operated safely during 2005 with all inspection findings being "green," or very low safety significance, and all performance indicators also indicating performance at levels requiring no additional NRC oversight. As a result, the NRC plans to conduct routine baseline inspections at the plant for the rest of 2006.

Routine inspections are performed by NRC Resident Inspectors assigned to the plant and by specialists from the Region II Office in Atlanta, and the agency's headquarters in Rockville, Md.

Current information for the Harris plant is available on the NRC web site at: www.nrc.gov/NRR/OVERSIGHT/ASSESS/HAR1/har1_chart.html.

###