

U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
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**NRC STAFF TO HOLD PREDECISIONAL ENFORCEMENT CONFERENCE
TO DISCUSS SEQUOYAH EQUIPMENT CONCERNS WITH TVA**

The Nuclear Regulatory Commission staff has scheduled a predecisional enforcement conference with the Tennessee Valley Authority on December 16 to discuss apparent violations at the Sequoyah nuclear power plant related to equipment problems experienced during a Unit 2 reactor trip on October 11 and maintenance and corrective actions associated with an inoperable Unit 2 reactor trip breaker on September 19.

A special NRC inspection found seven apparent violations related to the condition of equipment, inadequate procedures and procedural errors, although the number and characterization of those violations may change during further NRC review.

The conference will be held in Atlanta from 10:00 a.m. until 12 noon in the NRC's regional office, located at 101 Marietta Street, N.W., Suite 2900. The meeting is open to observation by the public and the media, and NRC officials will be available at its conclusion to answer questions from interested observers.

The conference is open to public observation under an NRC policy initiated in 1992 which opens every fourth such meeting to public scrutiny.

NRC officials said the decision to hold an enforcement conference does not mean that a determination has been made that a violation has occurred or that enforcement action will be taken. Rather, the purpose is to discuss apparent violations, their causes, and safety significance; to provide the licensee an opportunity to point out any errors that may have been made in the NRC inspection report; and to enable the company to outline its proposed corrective actions.

No decision on the apparent violations or any contemplated enforcement action, such as a civil penalty, will be made at this conference. Those decisions will be made by senior NRC officials at a later time.

Recorded information on upcoming open enforcement conferences is also available by calling 1-800-952-9674.

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