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NRC STAFF ISSUES PERFORMANCE REVIEW FOR ABB C-E FUEL FACILITY IN MISSOURI; MEETING SET FOR MAY 2

The Nuclear Regulatory Commission staff will meet with ABB C-E Nuclear Power, Inc., officials on Tuesday, May 2, to discuss its recent Licensee Performance Review of the company's fuel processing facility at Hematite, Missouri.

The meeting will be at 1 p.m. in the Conference Room, Building 110, at the Hematite facility, located at 3300 State Road P in Hematite. The meeting is open to public observation.

The performance review covers the period from February 1998 through December of last year.

"Our review indicated that your performance was adequate in all areas assessed," said James E. Dyer, NRC Regional Administrator in the report to the company. "Operator's knowledge of systems and integrated plant operations were noted strengths during this review period."

He continued that the plant staff in radiological controls showed a decline in performance from the previous assessment period, including a buildup of contaminated waste and occasional personnel contamination control problems.

Mr. Dyer told the company that the current level of NRC inspection oversight would continue in most areas, but that inspection attention would be increased in the radiation protection area.

The NRC's performance review will be available on the NRC's web site at: <http://www.nrc.gov/OPA/reports> and from the Region III Office of Public Affairs.

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