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NRC TO MEET WITH OFFICIALS FROM EXELON NUCLEAR TO DISCUSS SAFETY PERFORMANCE AT BYRON

The U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission staff will meet with officials from the Exelon Generation Company on Friday, April 4, to discuss the results of NRC's annual assessment of the Byron nuclear power plant, located in Byron, Illinois.

The meeting will be held at 7 p.m. at the Jarrett Prairie Center, located at the Byron Area Prairie Preserve in Byron. The public is invited to observe the meeting, and NRC officials will be available before the conclusion of the meeting for questions and comments from the public.

A letter from the NRC to the Exelon Generation Company addresses plant safety performance during the previous year and forms the basis for the meeting discussions. The letter states that, overall, Byron operated in a manner that preserved public health and safety and that plant performance was at a level requiring no additional NRC inspection beyond normal baseline activities. The letter is available from Region III Public Affairs Office and on the NRC web site at: <http://www.nrc.gov/NRR/OVERSIGHT/ASSESS/listofasmrpt.html>

In addition, the letter notes: "As you are aware, since the terrorist attacks of September 11, 2001, the NRC has issued several Orders and threat advisories to enhance security capabilities and improve guard force readiness. We have conducted inspections to review your implementation of these requirements and have monitored your actions in response to changing threat advisories. For calendar Year 2003, we plan to continue these inspections and conduct portions of the security baseline inspection program, as well as perform additional inspections to evaluate your compliance with new requirements that may be ordered."

Current performance information for Byron is available on the NRC web site at: <http://www.nrc.gov/NRR/OVERSIGHT/ASSESS/index.html#section2>

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