



NRC NEWS

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NRC TO MEET WITH DUKE ENERGY OFFICIALS TO DISCUSS SAFETY PERFORMANCE AT CATAWBA NUCLEAR POWER PLANT

The U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission staff will meet with Duke Energy Company officials on Tuesday, April 15, to discuss the results of NRC's annual assessment of safety performance at the Catawba nuclear power plant near Rock Hill, South Carolina.

The meeting will be held at 1:00 p.m. in the City Council Chambers of the Rock Hill City Hall, located at 155 Johnston Street, next to the York County library, in Rock Hill. . The public is invited to observe the meeting, and NRC officials will be available before the conclusion of the meeting to answer any questions.

A letter from the NRC to Duke Energy addresses plant safety performance during the previous year and forms the basis for the meeting discussions. The letter states that, overall, Catawba 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 II Public Affairs and on the NRC web site at www.nrc.gov/NRR/OVERSIGHT/ASSESS/LETTERS/cat_2002q4.pdf. It says the NRC staff will review activities at Catawba in response to a 2002 NRC Bulletin on reactor pressure vessel head and vessel head nozzle penetration programs and continue inspections of the plant's implementation of NRC security advisories and Orders to evaluate compliance with new requirements that may be ordered.

Current performance indicators for the two units at the Catawba plant are available at www.nrc.gov/NRR/OVERSIGHT/ASSESS/CAT1/cat1_chart.html and www.nrc.gov/NRR/OVERSIGHT/ASSESS/CAT2/cat2_chart.html

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