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NRC TO DISCUSS PRELIMINARY RESULTS OF INSPECTION FOR OYSTER CREEK NUCLEAR PLANT LICENSE RENEWAL APPLICATION

Preliminary results of an NRC inspection conducted as part of the agency's review of the Oyster Creek nuclear power plant's license renewal application will be presented during a public meeting on Wednesday, Sept. 13. Located in Lacey Township (Ocean County), N.J., the plant is owned and operated by AmerGen Energy Co., LLC.

The meeting is scheduled to begin at 6:30 p.m. at the Lacey Township Municipal Building, at 818 W. Lacey Road in Lacey. NRC staff will discuss the preliminary results with plant management and then provide a question-and-answer session for the public.

The focus of the meeting will be the inspection results. The NRC team inspected the plant's aging management programs as they are applied to systems, structures and components within the scope of license renewal. The team also inspected whether non-safety-related systems, structures and components were properly screened to ensure they are appropriately addressed.

The NRC still must determine whether further inspections are needed as part of its review of the application.

Under NRC regulations, the original operating license for a commercial nuclear power plant has a term of 40 years. The license can be renewed for up to an additional 20 years if NRC requirements are met. The current operating license for the Oyster Creek plant is due to expire on April 9, 2009.

In July 2005, AmerGen submitted an application to extend the plant's license by 20 years. The inspection is one of a number of NRC activities involved in evaluating a license renewal application.

Additional information concerning license renewal in general and the Oyster Creek application in particular can be found at: <http://www.nrc.gov/reactors/operating/licensing/renewal.html>.

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