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NRC, COMPANY TO DISCUSS LICENSE RENEWAL INSPECTION OF GINNA PLANT

The results of a Nuclear Regulatory Commission inspection of the aging management program for the R.E. Ginna nuclear power plant will be discussed on Wednesday, October 22, at a meeting between NRC staff and the facility's management. The inspection is part of an NRC review of a license renewal application for the facility, which is located in Ontario, N.Y., and operated by Rochester Gas and Electric (RGE) Company.

Another topic at the meeting will be the results of an audit of the application. It was performed by the NRC's Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation.

The meeting is scheduled to begin at 6:30 p.m. at the Municipal Building, 1850 Ridge Road, Ontario, N.Y. Members of the public are invited to observe and will have an opportunity to pose questions to NRC officials before the meeting is adjourned.

In April 2002, RGE applied to the NRC for a 20-year extension of the operating license for Ginna. One important aspect of the NRC license renewal process is to ensure that a plant manages the effects of aging equipment through an effective monitoring and maintenance program. The NRC has found that a successful program will permit safe operation for an additional 20 years beyond the initial license period of 40 years.

More information on license renewal in general and for Ginna specifically can be found on the NRC's web site at: www.nrc.gov/reactors/operating/licensing/renewal/applications.html. If approved, the license extension would allow the Ginna plant to operate until September 2029.

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