

NRC NEWS

U.S. NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

Office of Public Affairs, Region II 245 Peachtree Center Ave., NE, Suite 1200 Atlanta, GA 30303-1257 Site: www.nrc.gov

Blog: http://public-blog.nrc-gateway.gov

No. II-11-019 CONTACT: Roger Hannah (404) 997-4417 Joey Ledford (404) 997-4416 April 14, 2011

E-mail: OPA2@nrc.gov

NRC SCHEDULES MEETING TO DISCUSS 2010 PERFORMANCE ASSESSMENT FOR VOGTLE NUCLEAR POWER PLANT

U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission officials have scheduled a meeting for Tuesday, April 19 to provide information on the agency's annual assessment of safety performance for the two operating units at the Vogtle nuclear power plant during 2010.

The meeting will begin with an open house at 6 p.m. followed by a brief presentation at 6:30 p m. There will be a question and answer session after the presentation. The meeting will be held in the Burke County Public Library, 130 Ga. Highway 24 S. in Waynesboro, Ga.

The Vogtle plant, which has two pressurized-water reactors, is located near Waynesboro, about 26 miles southeast of Augusta. It is operated by Southern Nuclear Operating Co.

Overall, the NRC staff concluded that the Vogtle plant operated safely in 2010, and there were no inspection findings or performance indicators that would cause the NRC to increase its level of oversight and inspection. Based on the plant's performance, the NRC staff plans to continue the detailed routine or baseline inspections all nuclear power plants receive.

"The NRC evaluates nuclear power plants in a systemic and detailed way every year," said NRC Region II Administrator Victor McCree. "The inspections and oversight at Vogtle ensure that the plant is operated in a way that protects people and the environment."

The annual assessment letter for the Vogtle plant is available on the NRC web site at www.nrc.gov/NRR/OVERSIGHT/ASSESS/LETTERS/vog_2010q4.pdf.

Routine inspections are carried out by the NRC resident inspectors assigned to the plant and by inspection specialists from the Region II office in Atlanta. Among the areas at the Vogtle plant to be inspected this year by NRC specialists are facility modifications, managing gas accumulation in the plant's Emergency Core Cooling Systems, and operator licensing requalification.

Current performance information for Vogtle Unit 1 is available on the NRC web site at www.nrc.gov/NRR/OVERSIGHT/ASSESS/VOG1/vog1_chart.html. Current performance information for Vogtle Unit 2 is available on the NRC web site at www.nrc.gov/NRR/OVERSIGHT/ASSESS/VOG2/vog2 chart.html.

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