



NRC NEWS

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NRC SCHEDULES PUBLIC MEETING FOR JUNE 7 TO DISCUSS PERFORMANCE OF CRYSTAL RIVER NUCLEAR POWER PLANT

The U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission staff has scheduled a meeting for Tuesday, June 7, to discuss the agency's assessment of the Crystal River nuclear plant during 2010. The plant, operated by Progress Energy, is located near Crystal River, Fla., about 80 miles north of Tampa.

The meeting will begin at 1 p.m. EDT with a presentation on the performance of the Crystal River plant during 2010, as well as a brief discussion of the NRC's oversight and inspection program. After the presentation, there will be a question and answer session. The meeting will be at the plant's training center, 8200 West Venable Street in Crystal River.

"The NRC evaluates nuclear power plants in a systematic and detailed way every year," NRC Region II Administrator Victor McCree said. "The inspections and oversight at Crystal River ensure that activities at the plant are carried out in a way that protects people and the environment."

A letter sent from the NRC Region II office to plant officials addresses the performance of the plant during 2010 and will serve as the basis for the meeting discussion. It is available on the NRC website at: www.nrc.gov/NRR/OVERSIGHT/ASSESS/LETTERS/cr_2010q4.pdf.

The NRC found that the company's activities at the Crystal River plant during 2010 were conducted in a manner that preserved public health and safety. Based on that assessment, the NRC is conducting its normal or baseline level of inspection at the plant this year.

The Crystal River plant remains in an extended shutdown while the company evaluates repair options for a separation in the concrete wall of the containment building. NRC inspectors will review information provided by the company and inspect any planned repairs when decisions are made.

The NRC uses color-coded inspection findings and performance indicators to assess plant performance. The colors start with "green," which has very low safety significance, to "white," "yellow" or "red," based on the significance of the issues. Inspection findings and performance indicators are updated on the NRC's website (www.nrc.gov) each quarter.

Current performance information for the Crystal River plant is available on the NRC website at: www.nrc.gov/NRR/OVERSIGHT/ASSESS/CR3/cr3_chart.html.

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