



NRC NEWS

U.S. NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

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NRC TO HOLD MEETING ON JUNE 7TH IN MIDDLETOWN, PA., TO DISCUSS ANNUAL ASSESSMENT OF THREE MILE ISLAND 1 NUCLEAR POWER PLANT

Nuclear Regulatory Commission staff will hold a public meeting on Tuesday, June 7, regarding the agency's annual assessment of safety performance for the Three Mile Island 1 nuclear power plant during 2010.

The meeting is scheduled to begin at 6:30 p.m. at the Sheraton Harrisburg Hershey Hotel, at 4650 Lindle Road in Harrisburg, Pa. Prior to the session's conclusion, there will be an opportunity for members of the public to ask questions of the NRC staff regarding the plant's performance, as well as the agency's oversight of the facility.

Three Mile Island 1 is a pressurized-water reactor located in Middletown (Dauphin County), Pa. It is owned and operated by Exelon Nuclear.

"Our Annual Assessment reviews allow us to step back and gauge whether the nuclear power plants we regulate are on the right track in terms of performance and adhering to the highest levels of safety," NRC Region I Administrator Bill Dean said. "Once we've completed these evaluations, we reach out to the public to share that information and to receive their feedback at a location near each plant. We welcome and value these exchanges."

The NRC utilizes a combination of color-coded inspection findings and performance indicators to measure plant performance. The colors start with "green", representing very low safety significance, and increase to "white", "yellow" or "red", commensurate with the significance of the issues involved.

Overall, the Three Mile Island 1 reactor operated safely during 2010. At the conclusion of last year, as assessed through the NRC's Reactor Oversight Process, there were no inspection findings that were "Greater than Green" (rising to the level requiring additional NRC oversight) or any performance indicators that were other than "Green" (exceeding the threshold for the indicator and requiring additional NRC oversight) for the unit. Therefore, for the remainder of 2011, Three Mile Island 1 will continue to receive the very detailed inspection regime used by the NRC for plants that are operating well.

Routine inspections are carried out by two NRC Resident Inspectors assigned to each plant and by inspection specialists from the agency's Region I Office in King of Prussia, Pa. In 2010, the NRC devoted about 3,800 hours to inspection and related activity of Three Mile Island 1, including three major team inspections. Among the areas at Three Mile Island 1 being inspected in 2011 are fire protection, emergency preparedness, radiological safety and the storage, handling and transportation of radioactive materials.

The annual assessment letter for the Three Mile Island 1 plant is available on the NRC web site at: http://www.nrc.gov/NRR/OVERSIGHT/ASSESS/LETTERS/tmi_2010q4.pdf. The notice for the open house is available in the NRC's Agencywide Documents Access and Management System (ADAMS) under accession number ML111400039. ADAMS is available at: <http://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/adams.html>. Help in using ADAMS can be obtained via the NRC's Public Document Room at 1-800-397-4209 or 301-415-4737, or by e-mail at: PDR.Resources@nrc.gov.

Current performance information for Three Mile Island 1 is available on the NRC web site at: http://www.nrc.gov/NRR/OVERSIGHT/ASSESS/TMI1/tmi1_chart.html.

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