

NRC NEWS

Office of Public Affairs, Region III

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NRC Schedules Regulatory Conference to Discuss Apparent Violation at Palisades Nuclear Plant

Nuclear Regulatory Commission staff has scheduled a regulatory conference with officials of Entergy Nuclear Operations, Inc., on Tuesday, Jan. 13, to discuss a preliminary finding related to occupational dose limits for workers at the Palisades nuclear plant. The plant is located in Covert, Mich., five miles south of South Haven.

NRC and company officials will discuss the significance of the inspection finding connected to an activity performed during the February-March 2014 refueling outage. The finding involves a failure to ensure an accurate assessment of the dose received by personnel working in a high radiation area.

The incident did not result in any of the workers exceeding the occupational annual dose limit of five rem and had no negative impact on the plant or the public.

The meeting is scheduled for 1-3 p.m. in the NRC's Region III office, located at 2443 Warrenville Road, in Lisle, Ill. The public is invited to observe and NRC officials will be available to answer questions. Members of the public who are not able to attend the meeting can participate by dialing 888-810-3950 with passcode 5477675 or by submitting questions directly related to the regulatory conference by email to Patricia.Lougheed@nrc.gov with "Reg Conference" in the subject line.

The NRC evaluates regulatory performance at commercial nuclear power plants with a color-coded system that classifies findings as green, white, yellow or red, in increasing order of safety significance. The NRC's preliminary evaluation determined that the violation at Palisades was white, or of low to moderate safety significance.

No decisions on the final safety significance or other NRC actions will be made at the meeting. The NRC will issue the final determination on the safety significance of the issue after a thorough review of all the information related to the incident, including the input provided by Entergy during the regulatory conference.

The NRC <u>inspection report</u> which documents the apparent violation is publicly available on the NRC website.