

U.S. NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION
Region III Office of Public Affairs
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NRC AUGMENTED INSPECTION TEAM TO PRESENT FINDINGS
AT LASALLE NUCLEAR POWER PLANT

A Nuclear Regulatory Commission Augmented Inspection Team will meet Wednesday (July 17) with Commonwealth Edison Company officials to discuss findings of its recent inspection at the LaSalle nuclear power plant.

The meeting will be at 1 p.m. in the Brookfield Township Hall on Grand Ridge Road west of Highway 170 and one mile east of the LaSalle plant, and will be open for public observation. After the meeting there will be an opportunity for questions from reporters and for comments and questions from members of the public.

NRC dispatched the special team to the plant on July 1 to review the circumstances of a polymer foam material getting into the intake tunnel which supplies cooling water for both safety and non-safety related equipment cooling systems.

The six-person inspection team is headed by Roger Lanksbury, a Branch Chief from the NRC's Region III Office.

When Commonwealth Edison notified NRC of the incident, it had learned that foreign material in this cooling water system resulted from repair of cracks in the concrete of the service water intake building.

The utility shut down both LaSalle units on June 28 because of the potential that the material could restrict water flow to safety system equipment.

Commonwealth Edison has since cleaned the tunnel and tested the affected cooling water systems, and now considers the systems to be operable.

The team will issue a written report in several weeks.

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