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NRC TO MEET WITH SOUTHERN NUCLEAR OFFICIALS TO DISCUSS SAFETY PERFORMANCE AT VOGTLE NUCLEAR POWER PLANT

The U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission staff will meet with Southern Nuclear Operating Company officials on Tuesday, April 1, to discuss the results of NRC's annual assessment of safety performance at the Vogtle nuclear power plant near Waynesboro, Georgia, about 30 miles south of Augusta.

The meeting will be held at 1:00 p.m. in Room 504 of the Vogtle Training Center at 9034 River Road in Waynesboro.   The public is invited to observe the meeting, and NRC officials will be available before the conclusion of the meeting to answer any questions.

A letter from the NRC to Southern Nuclear addresses plant safety performance during the previous year and forms the basis for the meeting discussions.   The letter states that, overall, Vogtle operated in a manner that preserved public health and safety and that plant performance was at a level requiring no additional NRC inspection beyond normal baseline activities.   The letter, which is available from Region II Public Affairs and on the NRC web site at www.nrc.gov/NRR/OVERSIGHT/ASSESS/LETTERS/vog_2002q4.pdf , says the NRC staff will continue inspections of the plant's implementation of NRC security advisories and Orders to evaluate compliance with new requirements that may be ordered.

Current performance indicators for the two units at the Vogtle plant are available at www.nrc.gov/NRR/OVERSIGHT/ASSESS/VOG1/vog1_chart.html and www.nrc.gov/NRR/OVERSIGHT/ASSESS/VOG2/vog2_chart.html

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