



NRC NEWS

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NRC TO DISCUSS ANNUAL PERFORMANCE ASSESSMENT OF LIMERICK NUCLEAR POWER PLANT

Nuclear Regulatory Commission staff will meet with representatives of Exelon Nuclear on Thursday, April 8, to discuss the results of the agency's annual assessment of safety performance at the Limerick nuclear power plant. Exelon operates the twin-reactor plant, which is located in Limerick, Pa.

The meeting, which will be open to the public for observation, is scheduled to begin at 6 p.m. at the Limerick Township Municipal Building, 646 W. Ridge Pike in Limerick. Before the session is adjourned, NRC staff will be available to answer questions from the public on the plant's safety performance, as well as the role of the NRC in ensuring safe operation of the facility.

The performance period to be discussed is January 1 to December 31, 2003. In addition, NRC staff will provide a brief overview of how the agency's Reactor Oversight Process works.

A letter sent from the NRC Region I Office to plant officials addresses the performance of the plant during the period and will serve as the basis for the meeting discussion. It is available on the NRC web site at:
www.nrc.gov/NRR/OVERSIGHT/ASSESS/LETTERS/lim_2003q4.pdf.

Overall, the Limerick plant operated safely and met all cornerstone objectives during the period. (Cornerstones are program areas where NRC measures plant safety performance.) Therefore, at this time the NRC plans to conduct only baseline inspections at the site through September 30, 2005.

With regard to security issues, the NRC has issued several orders and threat advisories to enhance security capabilities and improve guard force readiness since the terrorist attacks on September 11, 2001. The agency has also conducted inspections to review the implementation of

these requirements and has monitored the action of plant operators in response to changing threat conditions. The NRC will continue security inspections during 2004.

Current performance information for the Limerick Unit 1 plant is available on the NRC web site at: www.nrc.gov/NRR/OVERSIGHT/ASSESS/LIM1/lim1_chart.html .

Current performance information for the Limerick Unit 2 plant is available on the NRC web site at: www.nrc.gov/NRR/OVERSIGHT/ASSESS/LIM2/lim2_chart.html .

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