



NRC NEWS

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NRC SCHEDULES OPEN HOUSE TO ANSWER QUESTIONS ON 2008 PERFORMANCE OF SUMMER NUCLEAR POWER PLANT

The U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission staff has scheduled an open house for Monday, April 13, and will be available to discuss and answer questions about the agency's assessment of safety performance during 2008 at the Summer nuclear power plant. The plant, operated by SCE&G, is located near Jenkinsville, S.C., about 26 miles northwest of Columbia.

The open house is informal and scheduled to run from 5-6 p.m. at McCrorey-Liston Elementary School, 1978 State Highway 215 South in Blair, S.C. During the open house, NRC staff will be available to answer questions on the safety performance of the Summer plant last year, as well as the NRC role in ensuring safe plant operation.

"Throughout the year, we inspect and review the performance of the Summer plant and all commercial nuclear plants," NRC Region II Administrator Luis Reyes said. "We issue several inspection reports during the year and an overall annual assessment. This open house allows us to discuss that assessment with local officials and people near the plant, and answer any questions they may have."

A letter sent from the NRC Region II office to plant officials addresses the performance of the plant during 2008 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/sum_2008q4.pdf.

The NRC found that the Summer plant's 2008 performance met all NRC safety objectives. This year, the NRC plans to continue to conduct the very detailed inspections required at those plants operating well. In addition, the agency will complete some generic inspections related to operator licensing examinations, ground water protection and reactor cooling system welds at Summer in 2009.

Performance at Summer during all of 2008 was at a level that resulted in no additional NRC oversight.

Current performance information for Summer Unit 1 is available on the NRC web site at: www.nrc.gov/NRR/OVERSIGHT/ASSESS/SUM/sum_chart.html.

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