



NRC NEWS

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NRC SCHEDULES OPEN HOUSE TO DISCUSS QUAD CITIES NUCLEAR POWER PLANT PERFORMANCE AND RELATED ISSUES JUNE 15

The Nuclear Regulatory Commission staff has scheduled an open house for Tuesday, June 15, to discuss with local residents the agency's assessment of safety performance for last year at the Quad Cities nuclear power plant and other NRC oversight activities. The two-unit plant, operated by Exelon Generating Company, is located in Cordova, Ill.

The open house will be informal and begin at 4 p.m. CDT at the Cordova Civic Center, 11th Street, in Cordova.

"The NRC continually reviews the performance of the Quad Cities plant and the nation's other commercial nuclear power facilities," said NRC Region III Administrator Mark Satorius. "This meeting allows us to discuss our annual assessment of safety performance with members of the local community. The goal of this open house is to explain how the NRC works and answer questions from residents about nuclear regulation."

A letter sent from the NRC Region III office to plant officials addressed the performance of the plant during 2009 and will serve as the basis for the discussion. It is available on the NRC Web site at: http://www.nrc.gov/NRR/OVERSIGHT/ASSESS/LETTERS/quad_2009q4.pdf.

Overall, the NRC found that both units of the Quad Cities nuclear plant met all NRC safety objectives during 2009, and performance was at a level that resulted in no additional NRC oversight. The NRC uses color-coded inspection findings and performance indicators to assess nuclear plant performance. The colors start with "green" and then increase to "white," "yellow" or "red," commensurate with the safety significance of the issues involved.

All performance indicators and inspection findings for Quad Cities during 2009 were determined to be "green." Performance indicators are a statistical measurement of plant and equipment performance.

Quad Cities will continue to receive the detailed inspection regime used by the NRC for plants that require no additional oversight. Routine inspections are performed by two NRC Resident Inspectors assigned to the plant and by inspection specialists from the Region III Office in Lisle, Ill., and the agency's headquarters in Rockville, Md. Among the areas of plant operations currently being inspected are engineering, radiation protection, and problem identification and resolution.

Current performance information for Quad Cities is available on the NRC Web site at: http://www.nrc.gov/NRR/OVERSIGHT/ASSESS/QUAD1/quad1_chart.html and http://www.nrc.gov/NRR/OVERSIGHT/ASSESS/QUAD2/quad2_chart.html.

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