

## **NRC NEWS**

## U.S. NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

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## NRC SCHEDULES OPEN HOUSE TO DISCUSS ANNUAL ASSESSMENT OF HATCH NUCLEAR POWER PLANT

Nuclear Regulatory Commission officials have scheduled an open house for April 17 to discuss the agency's assessment of safety performance during 2012 for the Hatch nuclear power plant. The plant, operated by Southern Nuclear, is in south Georgia near Baxley, about 20 miles south of Vidalia.

The open house, which the public is invited to attend, is scheduled for 1:30 p.m. in Conference Room 171 of the Southeastern Technical College, 3001 East First St., in Vidalia, Ga.

NRC staff will be available to answer questions on the safety performance of the Hatch plant, as well as the NRC role in ensuring safe plant operations.

Overall, the NRC staff concluded that the Hatch plant operated safely in 2012 and will receive normal detailed baseline oversight and inspection efforts. All inspection findings and performance indicators at the plant had very low safety significance.

"The NRC inspects nuclear plants and monitors their performance on an ongoing basis," said NRC Region II Administrator Victor McCree. "We issue inspection reports throughout the year and we hold these annual meetings near each plant to discuss our oversight and answer any questions local residents may have."

Routine inspections are carried out by the NRC resident inspectors assigned to the plant and by inspection specialists from the Region II office in Atlanta. The inspections at the Hatch plant this year will include fire protection, emergency preparedness and operator licensing examinations.

The annual <u>assessment letter</u> for the Hatch plant and current performance information for Unit 1 and Unit 2 are available on the NRC website.

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