

NRC NEWS

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NRC Schedules Regulatory Conference to Discuss Apparent Violation at Cooper Nuclear Station

The Nuclear Regulatory Commission will meet with Nebraska Public Power District officials on Nov. 7 to discuss a preliminary inspection finding regarding the licensee's failure to properly maintain electrical equipment at Cooper Nuclear Station, located in Brownville, Neb.

The 8:30 a.m. meeting at the NRC's Region IV office at 1600 E. Lamar Blvd., Arlington, Texas, will be open to the public. NRC officials will answer questions following the business portion of the conference. A telephone bridge will be available for the meeting by calling 1-800-593-9954, passcode 1393307. The public also can participate via an internet webinar: https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/3232396346631106051.

In a written <u>report</u>, NRC inspectors stated that the licensee failed to ensure insulation on electrical equipment was properly maintained. Degradation of the insulation resulted in a short circuit that led to the loss of one of two required off-site power supplies for the plant on Jan. 17, 2017. The licensee has replaced the damaged equipment.

No decision on the final safety significance of the finding or any additional NRC actions will be made at the conference. That decision will be announced at a later time.

The NRC evaluates regulatory performance at commercial nuclear plants with a color-coded process that classifies inspection findings as green, white, yellow or red in order of increasing safety significance. The NRC has preliminarily determined that the inspection finding has low to moderate (white) safety significance which may require additional inspections, regulatory actions and oversight.