

No: II-22-014

NRC NEWS

Office of Public Affairs, Region II

Atlanta, GA. 30303-1257

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April 27, 2022

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NRC Schedules Virtual Meeting to Discuss Performance of Framatome Facility

Nuclear Regulatory Commission staff will discuss the results of a two-year performance review for the Framatome nuclear fuel fabrication facility in Richland, Washington, during a virtual meeting scheduled for May 4.

The session will be held online from 2-3:30 p.m. Eastern time (11 a.m. - 12:30 p.m. Pacific time) with participation from NRC officials from the Region II office in Atlanta and Framatome officials at the facility in Richland. The public and media will be able to observe the meeting via Microsoft Teams and NRC officials will be available following the formal part of the meeting to answer questions.

Public preferring to listen to the meeting via telephone can call 301-576-2978, passcode 196870356#. Telephone participants will need to press *6 to unmute their phones to ask the NRC staff questions during that part of the meeting.

The NRC staff assessed the performance of the Framatome facility beginning Jan. 1, 2020, and ending Dec. 31, 2021, in safety operations, safeguards, radiological controls, facility support, and other areas. Overall, the NRC staff review found that Framatome continued to conduct its activities safely and securely, protecting public health and the environment.

The review found that no program areas needed improvement, which means the NRC will continue its normal inspection program for the facility. The NRC does not have resident inspectors at the Richland facility, but fuel facility inspectors from its Atlanta regional office conduct periodic inspections of various aspects of the operation.

A copy of the NRC letter to the company about the performance review and the presentation materials are available on the NRC website.