

## **NRC NEWS**

Office of Public Affairs, Region III

Lisle, IL. 60532-4352 www.nrc.gov opa3.resource@nrc.gov

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CONTACT: Viktoria Mitlyng 630-829-9662 Prema Chandrathil 630-829-9663

## NRC to Discuss Performance of Clinton Nuclear Power Station March 29

Nuclear Regulatory Commission staff will be available to discuss the 2016 safety performance of the Clinton nuclear power station, operated by Exelon Generation Co., during the Clinton Area Chamber of Commerce and Tourism Bureau's Business Expo planned for March 29, in Clinton, Ill.

The business expo will run from 4-7 p.m. and will be held at Clinton High School, 1200 Highway 54, in Clinton. On hand to discuss the plant's performance and the NRC's oversight of the facility will be agency employees responsible for inspections of the plant, including the resident inspectors based at the site on a full-time basis.

"This is the third year we are reaching out to the local community by participating in the expo. It is a great opportunity to engage a large number of local citizens who live near the plant," said NRC Region III Administrator Cynthia D. Pederson. "The resident inspectors stationed at the plant and other members of the NRC staff are looking forward to joining this community event to discuss the plant's performance and NRC oversight."

Overall, Clinton operated safely during 2016. During the last three quarters of the year, the plant was under regular NRC oversight, because all inspection findings and performance indicators were of very low safety significance. As a result, it is currently under the NRC's baseline level of oversight, which entails thousands of hours of inspection each year.

Under the NRC's Reactor Oversight Process, the agency gauges plant performance through the use of color-coded inspection findings and performance indicators, which are statistical measurements of plant performance that can trigger additional oversight if exceeded. Any inspection findings or performance indicators that are greater than "green" (very low safety significance) trigger increased NRC oversight.

During the first quarter of 2016, the plant was under increased NRC oversight due to a <u>finding</u> related to inadequate design of a shutdown service water pump, which resulted in its failure during a routine test. The NRC closed the finding after performing an <u>independent inspection</u> to verify that the plant has taken appropriate actions to resolve the issue.

The NRC also conducted an inspection to follow up on five violations of very low safety significance reviewed under the NRC's traditional enforcement process and documented its

observations in an <u>inspection report</u>. The NRC's traditional enforcement process is used to address violations that impact the NRC's ability to perform its regulatory oversight function.

In addition, the NRC identified a cross-cutting theme in the area of human performance. Cross-cutting themes, which affect multiple areas of plant operation, cannot be quantified and are not assigned safety significance. However, when a cross-cutting theme is identified at a plant, the NRC monitors the plant's actions to address it until it is resolved.

Day-to-day inspections are performed by two resident inspectors assigned to the plant. Reviews are also carried out at the sites by specialist inspectors assigned to the agency's Region III in Lisle, Ill.

The annual assessment letter for Clinton, as well as the notice for the meeting, are available on the <u>NRC website</u>. Current performance information is also <u>available</u>.