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Pilot Program Evaluation Panel to Meet in Rockville, Maryland, December 8-9

The Nuclear Regulatory Commission's Pilot Program Evaluation Panel (PPEP) will hold its fourth meeting December 8-9 in Rockville, Maryland, to prepare a final report on the new inspection, assessment and enforcement processes now being conducted as a pilot program at 13 nuclear reactors.

The meeting, which is open to the public, will be held in Conference Room T-2B3 of the agency's Two White Flint North Building at 11545 Rockville Pike from 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. each day. To ensure flexibility, the panel will not follow any specific agenda.

Members will discuss and resolve differences of views, if any, on the pilot program, which began May 30. It then will issue a written report before the end of the year representing the views of the panel members. The report, which will be publicly available, will be used by the NRC to consider whether any changes in the new oversight program should be made before it is fully implemented next year.

The panel includes NRC staff from headquarters and regional offices, together with representatives of the Nuclear Energy Institute, participating nuclear power plant licensees, the Union of Concerned Scientists, and the Illinois Department of Nuclear Safety. The NRC established the panel to independently evaluate and review its new oversight process.

Transcripts of the three previous Pilot Program Evaluation Panel's meetings and reports are available through the NRC's Public Document Room and on the NRC's homepage at: <u>http://www.nrc.gov/NRR/OVERSIGHT/overview.html</u>.

Those seeking information on opportunities to present oral statements or on schedule changes should contact Frank Gillespie at (301) 415-1004, or Mohan Thadani at (301) 415-1476.

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