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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
(Tuesday, October 3, 1995)

NRC ADVISORY GROUP SCHEDULES MEETING
ON WATTS BAR NUCLEAR POWER PLANT

A subcommittee of the Nuclear Regulatory Commission's Advisory Committee on Reactor Safeguards (ACRS) will hold a technical meeting on November 1 in Rockville, Maryland, to discuss issues related to an NRC review of an operating license for the Watts Bar 1 nuclear power plant near Spring City, Tennessee.

The meeting, which is open to the public, will begin at 8:30 a.m. in Room T2B3, 11545 Rockville Pike.

The Commission has asked the ACRS to review licensing issues that still need to be resolved at Watts Bar and make a recommendation. A decision on whether to authorize a fuel-load and low-power testing license will be made by the NRC's Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation. Approval of a full-power operating license for the nuclear plant will have to come from the Commission.

Discussions with NRC staff and Tennessee Valley Authority at the ACRS subcommittee meeting will include plant design changes made since the first ACRS review of Watts Bar in 1982 and how identified quality assurance weaknesses have been resolved.

The subcommittee will provide a briefing to the full ACRS committee at its monthly meeting on November 2 before a recommendation is made to the Commission.

The ACRS is an advisory group established by Congress to provide the NRC with independent expert advice on matters related to the safety of proposed nuclear power plants.

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