

U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Office of Public Affairs, Region II
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**NRC STAFF ISSUES ASSESSMENT OF SEQUOYAH PERFORMANCE
Performance Rated Superior In One Area - Good In Three Others**

The Nuclear Regulatory Commission staff has issued a Systematic Assessment of Licensee Performance (SALP) report for the Tennessee Valley Authority's Sequoyah nuclear power plant near Chattanooga which shows superior performance in the area of Plant Support and good performance in Plant Operations, Maintenance and Engineering.

NRC officials will meet with TVA managers at 11:00 a.m. at the Sequoyah site on Tuesday, April 21 to discuss details of the report. The meeting is open to observation by the public, and NRC representatives will be available at its conclusion to answer questions from interested observers.

The report covers operations at Sequoyah for a period from July 28, 1996 through February 21, 1998. Performance was assessed in four functional areas, Plant Operations, Engineering, Maintenance and Plant Support, as being in one of three categories. Category 1 is considered superior, Category 2 is considered good, and Category 3 is considered adequate.

In a letter transmitting the report to TVA, NRC Region II administrator, Luis A. Reyes, said performance in Plant Support improved from good to superior since the last assessment and that Plant Operations, Maintenance and Engineering remained good, as in the previous report.

Reyes said Sequoyah "operated well" during the last six months of the evaluation but that "it is unclear whether this positive performance indicates a consistent trend towards improved performance."

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