



NRC NEWS

U.S. NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

Office of Public Affairs

Telephone: 301/415-8200

Washington, DC 20555-001

E-mail: opa@nrc.gov

Web Site: <http://www.nrc.gov/OPA>

No. 00-085

May 24, 2000

NRC ISSUES ANNUAL ASSESSMENTS FOR 13 NUCLEAR PLANTS THAT PARTICIPATED IN PILOT EVALUATION OF REVISED REACTOR OVERSIGHT PROCESS

The U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission has issued annual assessments for 13 nuclear power plants that participated in a six month pilot evaluation of the revised reactor oversight process. This is the first annual assessment of nuclear power plants under the new program.

No significant performance problems were identified at any of the 13 plants. They are:

- Salem 1 and 2, near Wilmington, Delaware, operated by Public Service Electric & Gas;
- Hope Creek near Wilmington, Delaware, operated by Public Service Electric & Gas;
- Fitzpatrick, near Oswego, New York, operated by the Power Authority of the State of New York;
- Shearon Harris, near Raleigh, North Carolina, operated by Carolina Power & Light Co.;
- Sequoyah 1 and 2, near Chattanooga, Tennessee, operated by the Tennessee Valley Authority;
- Prairie Island 1 and 2, near Minneapolis, Minnesota, operated by Northern States Power Co.;
- Quad Cities 1 and 2, near Moline, Illinois, operated by Commonwealth Edison Co.;
- Ft. Calhoun, near Omaha, Nebraska, operated by the Omaha Public Power District;
- Cooper, near Nebraska City, Nebraska, operated by the Nebraska Public Power District.

Results of these reviews and copies of letters sent to each licensee will be available from the NRC Office of Public Affairs, at: <http://www.nrc.gov/OPA/ppr> on the NRC web site, and ADAMS, the Agencywide Documents Access and Management System.

All commercial nuclear power plants (with the exception of the two D.C. Cook plants, due to their extended shutdown) are now being evaluated under the revised reactor oversight process initiated on April 2. The NRC expects to make additional refinements to the program during its first year of implementation.

The revised reactor oversight process reflects several important themes for all of NRC's

activities - an even greater focus on safety, an effort to improve objectivity and timeliness, a commitment to stakeholder involvement, and improved transparency of agency activities for both licensees and the general public.

As part of the new program, each plant will receive an assessment letter every six months which will include a 12-month inspection plan that may be updated periodically to reflect changes in nuclear power plant performance and NRC resource allocations. Updated information on plant performance is being posted to the NRC web site every quarter.

Public meetings at each of the 13 plants are being planned. Details of the meetings, which will be open to the public, will be announced as they are scheduled.

A full description of the reactor oversight process is available at:
<http://www.nrc.gov/OPA/primer.htm> on the NRC web site. Details about plant performance can be found at: <http://www.nrc.gov/NRR/OVERSIGHT/ASSESS/index/html> on the NRC web site.

##