



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>

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NRC ISSUES MID-CYCLE REVIEWS FOR NUCLEAR POWER PLANTS

The U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission has issued its mid-cycle reviews for all commercial nuclear power plants. Results of these reviews and copies of letters sent to each licensee are available from the NRC Office of Public Affairs and at: <http://www.nrc.gov/OPA/ppr> on the NRC web site.

All commercial nuclear power plants (with the exception of the two D.C. Cook plants, which were reviewed separately due to their recent extended shutdown) were evaluated under the reactor oversight process initiated on April 2. Under the revised reactor oversight process, the performance of all nuclear power plants is reviewed periodically. Mid-cycle reviews are made public and posted to the NRC web page at least every six months, along with letters sent to licensees which include an upcoming inspection schedule.

The reactor oversight process reflects several important themes for all of NRC's activities – a focus on safety-significant concerns, 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. The NRC expects to make additional refinements to the revised oversight process after its first year of implementation which ends March 2001.

A full description of the revised reactor oversight process is available at: <http://www.nrc.gov/OPA/primer.htm> or <http://www.nrc.gov/NRR/OVERSIGHT/index.html> on the NRC web site.

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