NRC NEWS

U.S. NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

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NRC TO HOLD WORKSHOP MARCH 26-28 ON INITIAL IMPLEMENTATION OF THE REACTOR OVERSIGHT PROCESS

The Nuclear Regulatory Commission will hold a public workshop March 26 - 28 in Gaithersburg, Maryland, to discuss lessons learned from the first year of implementing the agency's new reactor oversight process.

The workshop will be held at the Gaithersburg Hilton Hotel, 620 Perry Parkway, Gaithersburg, Md. The plenary session will be from 10:00 a.m. till noon on March 26. Workshop sessions will be from 1:00 to 5:00 p.m. on March 26; 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. on March 27; and 8:00 a.m. till noon on March 28. The closing plenary session will be from 1:00 to 3:30 p.m. on March 28.

Interested individuals can pre-register for the workshop on line at: www.nrc.gov/NRR/OVERSIGHT/ROP/workshop.html on NRC's web site. On-site registration will be from 8:00 to 10:00 a.m. on March 26.

Members of the public, the media, and representatives from state, industry and public interest groups are expected to participate in discussions, providing their views on the reactor oversight process, initially implemented industry-wide last April.

Preliminary topics include issues with selected nuclear power plant performance indicators, assessing maintenance effectiveness, conducting problem identification and resolution inspections, evaluating cross-cutting areas, potential changes to the assessment process, issues associated with the occupational radiation safety cornerstones, and communication of inspection results. NRC plans to post a final agenda on the NRC web site ten days prior to the workshop.

Workshop participants should be familiar with the reactor oversight process in order to facilitate their participation. The NRC web site at: www.nrc.gov/NRR/OVERSIGHT/index.html provides useful information related to performance indicators, inspection findings and reports, and the new processes and procedures. Any questions about the workshop should be directed to August Spector at (301) 415-2140 or email: AKS@NRC.GOV.

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