



NRC NEWS

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CONTACT: Jan Strasma (630) 829-9663
Viktoria Mitlyng (630) 829-9662

E-mail: opa3@nrc.gov

NRC OVERSIGHT PANEL TO MEET WITH DAVIS-BESSE OFFICIALS DECEMBER 3

The Nuclear Regulatory Commission Davis-Besse oversight panel will hold two meetings on Wednesday, December 3, to review the status and adequacy of recent activities at the Davis-Besse Nuclear Power Station.

The plant, operated by FirstEnergy Nuclear Operating Company near Oak Harbor, Ohio, has been shut down since February 16 of last year as a result of corrosion damage to its reactor vessel head.

The meetings will be held in the Oak Harbor High School Auditorium, 11661 West State Route 163, in Oak Harbor.

Although FirstEnergy has requested that the NRC schedule a meeting on the possible restart of the plant, the December 3 meetings will not address plant restart. The utility is expected to report on ongoing plant activities and on its long-term plans for evaluating and improving the safety culture of the plant management and staff.

The first meeting will begin at 2 p.m. (EST), when the NRC oversight panel, set up to monitor the activities associated with the plant's recovery from problems which led to the reactor vessel head corrosion, will meet with utility officials. The public is invited to observe the business portion of the meeting and will have an opportunity to make comments and ask questions of the NRC staff before the meeting is adjourned.

The second meeting will begin at 7 p.m. (EST) for the oversight panel to update the public on NRC's activities related to the reactor vessel degradation and to provide a summary of the earlier meeting. The public will be invited to ask questions and make comments.

The transcripts of both oversight panel meetings will be posted in several weeks on the NRC's web site - <http://www.nrc.gov>. Select "Davis-Besse" from the Key Topics menu.

The NRC oversight panel includes NRC management and staff from its Region III office in Lisle, Illinois; the NRC Headquarters office in Rockville, Maryland; and the NRC Resident Inspector Office at the Davis-Besse site.

Documents on the Davis-Besse corrosion issue, including further details on NRC's oversight panel activities, are posted on the NRC's web site.