



NRC NEWS

U.S. NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

61 Forsyth Street, SW

Atlanta, GA, 30303-8931

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

No. II-04-006

February 25, 2004

CONTACT: Ken Clark (404)562-4416

E-mail: OPA2@nrc.gov

Roger Hannah (404)562-4417

NRC TO MEET WITH WESTINGHOUSE NUCLEAR FUEL PLANT OFFICIALS MARCH 3 TO DISCUSS FACILITY SAFETY PERFORMANCE

Nuclear Regulatory Commission officials will meet with officials of the Westinghouse commercial nuclear fuel plant in Columbia, South Carolina, on March 3 to discuss the agency's latest review of the facility's safety performance.

The meeting will begin at 10:00 a.m. in the Main Administration Building on the Westinghouse site, and is open to observation by the public. NRC officials will be available before the close of the meeting to answer questions from interested observers.

The NRC review evaluates Westinghouse safety performance in the major areas of safety operations, safeguards, radiological controls, facility support and special topics and covers the period from December 30, 2001, through December 6, 2003.

The review found that Westinghouse had conducted its activities safely and securely, but procedural compliance problems continued to present a challenge and warrant additional oversight.

Westinghouse's performance will result in extra inspections in the area of procedural compliance and NRC evaluation of the company's corrective actions in that area. The NRC will also increase management review of corrective actions and re-evaluate performance halfway through the normal 24-month licensee performance review period for such NRC-licensed fuel facilities.

A copy of the NRC letter to Westinghouse which outlines details of the review is available by contacting OPA2@nrc.gov or from the NRC web site at <http://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/adams/web-based.html> as document ML040410004.

###