



NRC NEWS

**UNITED STATES NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION
OFFICE OF PUBLIC AFFAIRS, REGION II**

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NRC TO MEET WITH PROGRESS ENERGY OFFICIALS TO DISCUSS SAFETY PERFORMANCE AT HARRIS NUCLEAR POWER PLANT

The U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission staff will meet with Progress Energy officials on Wednesday, March 24, to discuss the results of NRC's annual assessment of safety performance at the Harris nuclear power plant southwest of Raleigh, North Carolina.

The meeting will be held at 2:00 p.m. in the Holiday Inn Express, 1006 Marco Drive in Apex, North Carolina. The public is invited to observe the meeting, and NRC officials will be available before the conclusion of the meeting to answer any questions.

The NRC found that the Harris plant was operated safely during the previous year and met all the safety objectives in the NRC's oversight program. The NRC also found that an inspection of a performance issue relating to the number of unplanned plant shutdowns concluded that corrective actions were adequate. Several other minor issues evaluated during the period were determined to be of very low safety significance.

In addition to the routine NRC inspections at the Harris plant, the agency will conduct inspections of reactor vessel lower head penetrations, containment sump blockage and a pilot inspection of plant design issues. The NRC will also continue to conduct inspections of the plant's implementation of NRC security Orders, along with any newly developed portions of the security program.

The letter describing Harris plant safety performance is available from Region II Public Affairs and on the NRC web site at www.nrc.gov/NRR/OVERSIGHT/ASSESS/LETTERS/har_2003q4.pdf.

Current performance indicators for the Harris plant are available at www.nrc.gov/NRR/OVERSIGHT/ASSESS/HAR1/har1_chart.html.

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