



NRC NEWS

U.S. NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

61 Forsyth Street, SW
Atlanta, GA, 30303-8931
Web Site: www.nrc.gov

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CONTACT: Ken Clark (404)562-4416
Roger Hannah (404)562-4417

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E-mail: OPA2@nrc.gov

NRC TO HOLD OPEN REGULATORY CONFERENCE TO DISCUSS SURRY NUCLEAR PLANT OPERATIONS

The U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission will hold an open Regulatory Conference with officials of Virginia Electric & Power Company on April 1 in Atlanta to discuss operations at the company's Surry nuclear power plant near Surry, Virginia.

Conferees will discuss the preliminary risk significance of NRC inspection findings associated with a potential fire in the emergency switchgear and relay room. This room houses the electrical power sources for most of the essential equipment and operating controls that would be needed in a plant emergency. Company officials requested the conference to discuss their evaluation of the issue's safety significance.

The meeting is open to public observation and will begin at 2:00 p.m. in the NRC's Region II office in Atlanta, located in the Atlanta Federal Center at 61 Forsyth Street, SW, Suite 24T20.

The NRC evaluates regulatory performance at commercial nuclear power plants with a color-coded process which classifies regulatory findings as either green, white, yellow or red, in increasing order of safety significance. The NRC's preliminary evaluation determined that the safety significance of this issue is white, meaning that it is considered to be of low to moderate safety significance.

No decision on determination of the final significance, any apparent violation or any contemplated enforcement action will be made during the conference. Those decisions will be made by NRC officials at a later time, and that information will be made available on the NRC's web site.

Remote public observation of this meeting will be permitted in Room O-03B34 in the NRC's White Flint office building at 11555 Rockville Pike in Rockville, MD. Seating may be limited and will be assigned on a first-come basis. Interested parties should contact the meeting coordinator, Mr. Steve Monarque, at (301) 415-1544, indicating their intention to attend.

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