



NRC NEWS

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

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NRC TO MEET WITH TVA NUCLEAR OFFICIALS TO DISCUSS SAFETY PERFORMANCE AT WATTS BAR NUCLEAR POWER PLANT

The U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission staff will meet with Tennessee Valley Authority officials on Friday, April 9, to discuss the results of NRC's annual assessment of safety performance at the Watts Bar nuclear power plant near Spring City, Tennessee.

The meeting will be held at 2:00 p.m. at the Best Western Motel at 1421 Murray's Chapel Road, in Sweetwater, Tennessee, just off I-75 at Exit 60. The public is invited to observe the meeting, and NRC officials will be available before its conclusion to answer any questions.

The NRC told TVA that plant safety performance during the previous year forms the basis for the meeting discussions. The NRC said that Watts Bar operated safely and that plant performance was at a level requiring no additional NRC inspection beyond normal. A letter from NRC to TVA detailing the results of the evaluation is available from Region II Public Affairs and on the NRC web site at www.nrc.gov/NRR/OVERSIGHT/ASSESS/LETTERS/wb_2003q4.pdf. The NRC said the NRC staff, in addition to the normal inspections at Watts Bar, will conduct additional inspections at Watts Bar of the plant's implementation of any new security Orders and any new security requirements. The NRC will also continue to inspect the lay-up and preservation of Watts Bar Unit 2, which has been deferred by TVA and has not received an operating license.

Current performance indicators for Watts Bar Unit 1 are available at www.nrc.gov/NRR/OVERSIGHT/ASSESS/WB1/wb1_chart.html.

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