



NRC NEWS

U. S. NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

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NRC TO DISCUSS PERFORMANCE OF COMANCHE PEAK JULY 15

The U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission staff will meet with representatives of TXU Energy on July 15 to discuss the results of the agency's assessment of safety performance at the Comanche Peak nuclear plant during 2003. The plant is located near Glen Rose, Texas.

The meeting will be held at 6 p.m. at the Somerville County Expo Center, 202 Bo Gibbs Blvd., Glen Rose. The public is invited to observe the meeting and NRC officials will be available before the conclusion of the meeting to answer questions from the public.

"The meeting will give area residents a chance to hear first-hand how NRC inspectors think the plant has been run from a safety standpoint. NRC regulations require the plant be operated in a safe manner, and this is our report card on how they've done in the past year," said NRC Region IV Administrator Bruce S. Mallet.

The performance period to be discussed is January 1 to December 31, 2003. In addition, the NRC staff will provide an overview of how the agency Reactor Oversight Process works.

A letter from the NRC to TXU Energy addresses the performance of the plant during this period and will serve as the basis for the meeting discussion. It is available on the NRC web site at: http://www.nrc.gov/NRR/OVERSIGHT/ASSESS/LETTERS/cp_2003q4.pdf

The NRC concluded that the plant operated safely last year and will receive routine inspections during 2004.

With regard to security issues, the letter points out that NRC has issued several orders and threat advisories to enhance security capabilities at all nuclear power plants and improve guard

force readiness since the terrorist attacks on September 11, 2001. The agency has also conducted inspections to review the implementation of these requirements and has monitored the action of plant operators in response to changing plant conditions. The NRC will continue security inspections during 2004.

Current performance indicators for Comanche Peak Unit 1 are available on the NRC web site at: http://www.nrc.gov/NRR/OVERSIGHT/ASSESS/CP1/cp1_chart.html . Current performance indicators for Unit 2 are available at: http://www.nrc.gov/NRR/OVERSIGHT/ASSESS/CP2/cp2_chart.html .

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