



NRC NEWS

U. S. NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

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NRC TO DISCUSS PERFORMANCE OF GRAND GULF ON JULY 22

The U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission staff will meet with representatives of Entergy Operations Inc., on July 22 to discuss the results of the agency's assessment of safety performance at the Grand Gulf nuclear plant during 2003. The plant is located near Port Gibson, Mississippi.

The meeting will be held at 6 p.m. at Port Gibson City Hall, 1005 College Street, Port Gibson. 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 people an opportunity to hear first-hand from NRC staff how safely Grand Gulf has been run in the past year, as required by our regulations," said NRC Region IV Administrator Bruce S. Mallet. "In effect, we will be presenting the plant's annual report card to the public."

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 Entergy Operations 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/gg_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 Grand Gulf are available on the NRC web site at: http://www.nrc.gov/NRR/OVERSIGHT/ASSESS/GG1/gg1_chart.html .

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