



NRC NEWS

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OFFICE OF PUBLIC AFFAIRS, REGION II

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NRC TO PRESENT RESULTS OF LICENSEE PERFORMANCE REVIEW AT AREVA COMMERCIAL FUEL PLANT IN RICHLAND

Nuclear Regulatory Commission officials will meet with AREVA NP, Inc., management in Richland, Wash., at 1:00 p.m. (PDT) on Wednesday, October 18, to discuss the results of a review of regulatory safety performance at the company's commercial nuclear fuel fabrication plant.

The meeting will be held in Conference Room 5 at the AREVA facility, which is located at 2101 Horn Rapids Road in Richland, and will be open to observation by interested members of the public and the news media. The meeting will be between AREVA and the NRC, and NRC officials will be available at the end of the business portion, but before the meeting is adjourned, to answer questions from observers.

The NRC staff assessed performance at AREVA for a period from August 1, 2004, until August 12, 2006, in the areas of operational safety, radiological controls, facility support and licensing. The NRC staff review highlighted improvements made by the company in several areas, but said improvements were still needed in others areas. However, based on overall performance, the agency determined that no additional inspections beyond the standard program for such a facility are needed.

Dr. William D. Travers, Administrator of the NRC Region II office in Atlanta, said "the NRC continually reviews regulatory safety performance at AREVA and at all of the nation's other licensed nuclear facilities." He added that the meeting "is an opportunity for us to discuss safety performance with the company and with residents living near the plant who might be interested."

A copy of the NRC letter to the company regarding the review is publicly available on the internet in the NRC's Agencywide Document Access and management System (ADAMS) at www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/adams.html (ML062710348 for the meeting announcement and ML062640014 for the performance report).

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