



# NRC NEWS

U.S. NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

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## NRC TO DISCUSS 2006 ASSESSMENT FOR PEACH BOTTOM NUCLEAR PLANT AT PUBLIC MEETING SCHEDULED FOR APRIL 4

The Nuclear Regulatory Commission's annual assessment of safety performance at the Peach Bottom nuclear power plant, in Delta (York County), Pa., will be the subject of a public meeting on Wednesday, April 4.

NRC staff will meet with representatives of plant owner Exelon Generating Co., LLC, at 2:30 p.m. to discuss the assessment, which covers the period from Jan. 1 to Dec. 31, 2006, and was documented in a March 2<sup>nd</sup> letter to the company. The session will take place at the Peach Bottom Inn, 6085 Delta Road in Delta.

Before the meeting is adjourned, NRC staff will be available to answer questions from the public on the performance of the twin-reactor Peach Bottom plant, as well as the role of the NRC in providing oversight of plant safety.

"Each year we take a step back to size up plant performance during the previous calendar year, with the overarching goal of ensuring that facilities are achieving the levels of safety that are essential to protecting the public and the environment," said NRC Region I Administrator Samuel J. Collins, who noted the agency also conducts mid-year assessments of performance. "At the meeting on April 4th, members of the public will receive information about how we go about that review process for Peach Bottom and other nuclear power plants across the nation. The NRC staff will also be prepared to answer questions from attendees."

The annual assessment letter for Peach Bottom is available on the NRC web site at: [http://www.nrc.gov/NRR/OVERSIGHT/ASSESS/LETTERS/pb\\_2006q4.pdf](http://www.nrc.gov/NRR/OVERSIGHT/ASSESS/LETTERS/pb_2006q4.pdf). The notice for the meeting, with the agenda attached, is available in the NRC's Agencywide Documents Access and Management System (ADAMS) under accession number ML070780428. ADAMS is accessible via the agency's web site at: <http://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/adams.html>. Help in using ADAMS is available by contacting the NRC's Public Document Room at 1-800-397-4209 or 301-415-4737, or by e-mail at [PDR@NRC.GOV](mailto:PDR@NRC.GOV).

Overall, the Peach Bottom plant operated safely during 2006. The NRC utilizes color-coded

inspection findings and performance indicators to assess nuclear power plant performance. The colors start with “green” and then increase to “white,” “yellow” or “red,” commensurate with the safety significance of the issues involved. Because all of the performance indicators for Peach Bottom were determined to be “green” and there were no inspection findings greater than “green” at the end of 2006, the plant will receive the baseline, or routine, level of inspections in 2007.

Routine inspections are performed by two NRC Resident Inspectors assigned to the plant and by inspection specialists from the Region I Office in King of Prussia, Pa. Among the areas of plant performance to be inspected this year by NRC specialists are emergency preparedness, dry cask storage of spent nuclear fuel, and problem identification and resolution.

Current performance information for Peach Bottom Unit 2 is available on the NRC web site at: [http://www.nrc.gov/NRR/OVERSIGHT/ASSESS/PB2/pb2\\_chart.html](http://www.nrc.gov/NRR/OVERSIGHT/ASSESS/PB2/pb2_chart.html) .

Current performance information for Peach Bottom Unit 3 is available on the NRC web site at: [http://www.nrc.gov/NRR/OVERSIGHT/ASSESS/PB3/pb3\\_chart.html](http://www.nrc.gov/NRR/OVERSIGHT/ASSESS/PB3/pb3_chart.html) .

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