



NRC NEWS

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NRC TO HOLD PUBLIC MEETING MAY 8 ON CROSS-CUTTING ISSUES AT THE KEWAUNEE PLANT

The Nuclear Regulatory Commission staff will meet with representatives of Dominion Energy Kewaunee, Inc. Tuesday, April 8, to discuss the company's efforts and progress in addressing deficiencies in the areas of problem identification and resolution and human performance at the Kewaunee Nuclear Station. The plant is located at Kewaunee, Wisc.

The meeting, which will be open to the public, is scheduled to begin at 1 p.m. at the NRC's Region III Office; 2443 Warrenville Road, Suite 210, Lisle IL. The NRC staff will be available to respond to questions or comments from the public before the close of the meeting.

"Cross-cutting" issues cut across multiple areas of plant performance and are usually indicative of more wide-spread problems. If not corrected, they could lead to deficiencies in specific areas of plant performance.

The NRC's 2006 annual assessment letter to the Kewaunee station states that over the last year, a number of NRC inspections findings could be attributed, at least in part, to deficiencies in the plant's ability to identify and fix problems or to problems with providing complete, up-to-date procedures and following them. According to the letter, deficiencies in the plant's ability to evaluate and correct problems have continued since 2004.

"Addressing these cross-cutting issues is key to improving overall plant performance," said NRC's Region III Administrator James Caldwell. "Although the plant need to make sure the utility makes improvements in these areas. The public meeting is a part of NRC's actions to ensure this happens."

The NRC called this meeting to give the utility the opportunity to discuss its efforts to address the issues, to talk about progress made, and future actions to prevent their recurrence.

The 2006 annual assessment letter is available on the NRC web site at:
http://www.nrc.gov/NRR/OVERSIGHT/ASSESS/LETTERS/kewa_2006q4.pdf.

Other documents related to the Kewaunee Station are available at the NRC's Region III Office of Public Affairs or in the NRC's online document library at:
<http://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/admas/web-based.html>.

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