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NRC SENDS TEAM TO REVIEW PEACH BOTTOM SECURITY

The Nuclear Regulatory Commission has sent a team of inspectors to conduct a special security inspection at the Peach Bottom nuclear power plant in Delta, Pa. The team, called an Augmented Inspection Team (AIT), will arrive on site tomorrow to begin its work. The plant is operated by Exelon Nuclear.

The NRC is aware of information that security officers may have been inattentive while on duty at Peach Bottom. The company is conducting its own investigation into this information.

An AIT is formed to review the circumstances surrounding more significant issues at NRC-licensed facilities. This five-member team includes specialists from the agency's Region I office in King of Prussia, Pa., and from its headquarters in Rockville, Md. The inspectors are expected to spend at least a week at the site before returning to the regional office where the information they have gathered will be analyzed and evaluated.

"The inspection team will comprehensively assess the Peach Bottom security issues to confirm that the security program is being effectively implemented. It will also assess Exelon's actions in response to this information," NRC Region I Administrator Samuel J. Collins said. "Our NRC Resident Inspectors have been monitoring the situation and we continue to believe the site is secure."

A report will be issued within 30 days of the close of the inspection.

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