



NRC NEWS

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NRC SCHEDULES TWO PUBLIC MEETINGS TO DISCUSS NFS NUCLEAR FUEL PLANT PERFORMANCE

The Nuclear Regulatory Commission staff has scheduled two meetings with officials of Nuclear Fuel Services in Erwin, Tenn., one to discuss the company's efforts to improve the facility's safety culture, and a second the following day to review NFS performance during the first half of 2008.

The first meeting is scheduled for 2 p.m. on Oct. 1 at the NFS Training Center on Jackson Love Highway, which is off Interstate 26 in Erwin. The purpose of the meeting is to discuss the progress of the NFS Comprehensive Safety Culture Improvement Initiative, which was ordered by the NRC last year after a series of safety violations at the facility. The meeting is open to the public, and NRC officials will be available to answer questions from interested observers.

On Thursday, Oct. 2, at 7 p.m., the NRC has scheduled the NFS Licensee Performance Review at the NFS Training Center. The review covers the period from Jan. 1, 2008 to July 5, 2008. NRC staff members will be on hand to answer questions from the public about the agency's oversight and inspections of NFS. At 6:30 p.m., the NRC will host an informal information session for members of the public interested in learning more about the NRC's oversight of NFS.

The Licensee Performance Review meeting will include discussion of previous and current NFS performance in the areas of safety operations, safeguards, radiological controls, facility support and licensing. A period has also been set aside for questions from the public.

In a Sept. 8, 2008 letter to NFS officials, the NRC noted "an improvement in procedural compliance for this assessment period due to the reduced number of procedural violations identified." However, the agency said some violations were identified during the review period and, "NFS management should continue to strive to improve their safety performance."

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