



NRC NEWS

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NRC SCHEDULES MEETING TO DISCUSS SAFETY PERFORMANCE OF HONEYWELL METROPOLIS FACILITY

The Nuclear Regulatory Commission staff has scheduled a public meeting in Metropolis, Ill., on April 29 to discuss its latest evaluation of safety performance at the Honeywell Specialty Chemicals plant, including a decision to conduct additional inspections at the facility. The Honeywell plant processes uranium for use in commercial nuclear power plant fuel.

The meeting is scheduled to begin at 7 p.m. (CDT) at the Massac County Courthouse, 1 Superman Square, in Metropolis. The public can observe the business portion of the meeting and NRC staff will be available after that session to answer questions or provide further information about NRC oversight of the facility.

The NRC's evaluation of Honeywell, called a Licensee Performance Review, covered a period beginning January 6, 2008, and ending January 6, 2010. The review found that Honeywell continued to operate safely and securely but the NRC identified Safety Operations and Radiological Controls as two areas needing improvement. The NRC staff has asked Honeywell officials to discuss these two areas at the meeting as well as the reasons for onsite and offsite doses that were well below regulatory limits but higher than in previous years.

Based on the review, the NRC will conduct additional inspections at the Honeywell plant and decrease the next review period from 24 to 18 months.

The NRC letter to Honeywell discussing the performance review is available by going to the NRC web site at www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/adams/web-based.html and entering the document number ML100780373.

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