



NRC NEWS

U.S. NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

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No. II-10-075

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November 4, 2010

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NRC TO DISCUSS REVIEW OF AREVA NUCLEAR FUEL PLANT IN RICHLAND

The U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission staff has scheduled a meeting with AREVA NP, Inc. in Richland, Wash., for Wednesday, Nov. 17, to discuss the results of the agency's review of the company's commercial nuclear fuel fabrication plant.

The meeting is scheduled to be held at 1 p.m. (PST) in Conference Rooms A and B at the Richland Public Library, 955 Northgate Dr. in Richland. It will be open to members of the public and news media, and NRC officials will be available to answer questions about the facility's regulatory performance and NRC oversight after the business portion of the meeting.

The NRC staff assessed performance at AREVA during a period beginning Aug. 14, 2008 and ending Aug. 13, 2010. That performance was evaluated in the areas of safety operations, radiological controls, facility support, safeguards and special topics. The NRC staff review found that the plant continued to conduct its activities safely and no areas for improvement were identified. However, the NRC plans to conduct additional inspections of corrective actions listed in NRC orders issued during the review period.

"The NRC continually reviews regulatory safety performance at AREVA and all of the nation's licensed nuclear facilities," said Luis Reyes, administrator of the NRC Region II office in Atlanta. The meeting, he added, "is an opportunity to discuss that performance with the company and with people living near the plant."

A copy of the NRC letter to the company discussing the review is publicly available online at www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/adams.html. The number for that letter is ML102950064.

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