

NRC NEWS

U.S. NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

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NRC NAMES SENIOR RESIDENT INSPECTOR FOR SUMMER NUCLEAR PLANT CONSTRUCTION ACTIVITIES

The U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission recently opened a new construction inspection office at the Summer nuclear plant site, 26 miles northwest of Columbia near Jenkinsville, S.C., and the agency has named the first resident inspector to staff that office.



NRC officials in Atlanta have selected Rahsean Jackson as the new senior resident inspector for the construction of Summer Units 2 and 3. SCE&G, which operates the existing Summer nuclear unit, filed an application with the NRC for two additional units at the site in early 2008. The application is currently in the final stages of a review by the NRC, and the company has begun limited site preparation work. The actual construction of the plant cannot begin until the NRC issues an operating license. That decision is expected in 2012.

Jackson is a native of St. Paul, Minn., and prior to joining the NRC, he was a licensed structural engineer in the private sector designing large commercial and government office buildings. After joining the NRC's headquarters in Rockville, Md. in 2006, Jackson served as a structural reviewer for operating and new reactors. In 2008, Jackson joined Region II's Center for Construction Inspection in Atlanta as a construction inspector and was later promoted to senior construction inspector. He completed a rigorous inspector qualification program and was assigned as a region-based inspector. As a senior inspector, he performed and led a variety of engineering inspections at nuclear power plants and fuel facilities under construction.

Last year, Mr. Jackson served as an NRC representative in France in a regulatory exchange with French inspector counterparts. That trip also included a site visit to the Flamanville Unit 3 site currently under construction in Flamanville, France. He has also been involved in a number of special projects including as a member of the NRC's North Anna Earthquake Augmented Inspection Team and inspection of construction activities at Watts Bar Unit 2.

Jackson received his Bachelor of Science degree in Civil Engineering from Southern University, in Baton Rouge, La., and a Master of Science degree in Structural Engineering from Virginia Tech in Blacksburg, Va., in 2000.

"Rahsean Jackson has the knowledge and experience to help ensure that any construction activities at the Summer site are completed according to NRC regulations and in a way that protects people and the environment," said NRC Region II Administrator Victor McCree.

The NRC is expected to name two additional construction resident inspectors for the Summer site in early 2012.

Each operating U.S. commercial nuclear power plant site has at least two NRC resident inspectors. They serve as the agency's eyes and ears at the facility, conducting regular inspections, monitoring significant work projects, and interacting with plant workers and the public. Inspectors can serve for up to seven years at any one site. Construction sites will have their own NRC resident inspectors and the number assigned will be dependent on the work being done at each site.

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