NRC Will Hold a June 11 Open House on Davis-Besse Nuclear Power Plant 2012 Performance

The Nuclear Regulatory Commission staff will hold an open house June 11 to discuss the agency’s assessment of the Davis-Besse nuclear station’s safety performance for last year. The plant is located in Oak Harbor, Ohio, approximately 21 miles southeast of Toledo.

During the open house scheduled for 6-7:30 p.m., at the Carroll Township Service Complex, 11080 W. Toussant Road, in Oak Harbor, attendees will have an opportunity to talk one-on-one with NRC staff members about the plant’s 2012 performance and the agency’s oversight of the facility. NRC staff on hand will include the inspectors assigned to the plant on a full-time basis and staff from the Region III Office in Lisle, Ill. In addition, NRC staff responsible for the oversight of the upcoming steam generator replacement at the plant will be available to talk about their activities.

“When the NRC evaluates Davis-Besse’s performance for the previous year, we take a look at any and all issues that might be of concern,” said Region III Administrator Charles Casto. “Then we map out our inspection plans for that specific facility, issue inspection reports and hold public meetings near the plant in order to discuss our oversight and answer questions from local residents.”

The assessment letter sent from the NRC Region III office to plant officials addresses the performance of the plant during 2012 and will serve as the basis for the discussion.

The NRC uses color-coded inspection findings and performance indicators to assess nuclear plant performance. The colors start with green and then increase to white, yellow, or red, commensurate with the safety significance of the issues involved. Performance indicators are statistical measurements of plant and equipment performance.

Overall, the Davis-Besse plant operated safely during 2012. The plant had a greater-than-green security finding and therefore is getting increased NRC oversight. NRC security inspectors made sure the issue was corrected before they left the site. The inspection report and NRC’s determination of the significance can be found on the NRC’s website.

Inspections are performed by two NRC Resident Inspectors assigned to the plant and by inspection specialists from the Region III Office in Lisle, Ill., and the agency’s headquarters in Rockville, Md. Among the areas of performance to be inspected this year by NRC specialists are activities associated with emergency
preparedness, radiological safety, the requalification program for licensed plant operators, and steam generator replacement.

The most current performance information for Davis-Besse is available on the NRC website.