

No: III-13-031

August 1, 2013

CONTACT: Viktoria Mitlyng 630-829-9662
Prema Chandrathil 630-829-9663

NRC Schedules Public Meeting Aug. 8 to Discuss Performance of Braidwood Nuclear Plant

The Nuclear Regulatory Commission will hold a public meeting Aug. 8 to discuss the agency's annual safety assessment of the Braidwood nuclear power plant. The two-unit plant, operated by Exelon Generation Company, LLC, is located in Braceville, Ill., about 20 miles southwest of Joliet.

The public meeting will be held at 6 p.m. at the Braidwood City Hall, 141 W. Main St., in Braidwood. The NRC staff will present the results of the plant's 2012 annual assessment, talk about the NRC and its range of activities and be available to respond to questions and comments from the public.

"When the NRC evaluates Braidwood'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 [annual 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 review concluded that Braidwood Units 1 and 2 operated safely in 2012.

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.

All performance indicators and inspection findings for Unit 1 during 2012 were determined to be green.

All inspection findings for Unit 2 were green. There was one white performance indicator in the area of mitigating systems during the second quarter of the year which returned to green during the third

quarter. Mitigating systems are key pieces of equipment and specific systems that must be available and reliable when needed.

As a result of this overall performance, Braidwood will receive the NRC's normal level of oversight during 2013.

Routine 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 plant operations being inspected this year are independent spent fuel installation, radiation protection and license renewal.

The most current performance information for Braidwood [Unit 1](#) and [Unit 2](#) is available on the [NRC's website](#).