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NRC Will Hold an Open House on Waterford 3 Nuclear Plant Performance

The Nuclear Regulatory Commission staff will hold an open house Sept. 12 to discuss the agency's assessment of the Waterford 3 nuclear power plant's safety performance. The plant is located 25 miles west of New Orleans.

During the open house, which is scheduled for 6-8 p.m. at the Hilton New Orleans Airport Hotel, 901 Airline Drive, Kenner, La., attendees will have an opportunity to hold one-on-one discussions with NRC staff members about the plant's 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 IV office in Arlington, Texas.

The most recent [assessment letter](#) sent from the NRC to plant officials addresses the performance of the plant during 2012.

Overall, Waterford 3 is operating safely. All performance indicators and inspection findings for the facility are green, or of very low risk. As a result, Waterford is receiving the NRC's normal level of oversight during 2013.

"The NRC continually reviews the performance of Waterford 3 and the nation's other commercial nuclear power plants," NRC Region IV Acting Regional Administrator Steven A. Reynolds said. "This meeting will provide an opportunity for a discussion of our annual assessment of safety performance with the company and with local officials and residents who live near the plant."

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.

Inspections are performed by two NRC Resident Inspectors assigned to the plant and by specialist inspectors from the Region IV office and the agency's headquarters in Rockville, Md.

The most current [assessment](#) for Waterford 3 is available on the [NRC website](#).