

No: II-14-004

January 29, 2014

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NRC Schedules Meeting to Discuss Flooding Preparations at Watts Bar Nuclear Plant

The Nuclear Regulatory Commission has scheduled a public meeting for Wednesday, Feb. 5, near the Watts Bar nuclear plant to discuss the results of inspections stemming from flooding-related violations issued to the plant last year.

The regulatory performance meeting is scheduled for 7 p.m. EST in the Volunteer Meeting Room at the Comfort Inn, 2811 Decatur Pike in Athens. NRC officials will discuss the results of supplemental and follow-up inspections related to two inspection findings, one of substantial safety significance, and the second of low to moderate safety significance. The violations stem from the plant's failure to meet NRC requirements for analyzing and preparing for potential floods.

The plant, operated by the Tennessee Valley Authority, is located on Watts Bar Lake, about 60 miles southwest of Knoxville.

At the meeting, the NRC will discuss the corrective actions TVA has taken and plans to take to prepare for the unlikely failure of upstream dams. No actual flooding event that would have affected the plant's operations has occurred.

NRC officials will be available to answer questions from members of the public regarding the plant's regulatory performance. Anyone unable to attend the meeting can participate via a toll-free audio teleconference. Contact Jonathan Bartley at 404-997-4607 or via email at Jonathan.Bartley@nrc.gov for information on how to join the teleconference.