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NRC Schedules May 21 Meeting to Discuss Safety Performance of Browns Ferry Nuclear Plant

The Nuclear Regulatory Commission staff has scheduled a May 21 meeting to discuss the safety performance during 2013 of the Browns Ferry Nuclear Plant. The agency will also hold a regulatory performance meeting to discuss the results of a supplemental inspection completed at the facility last month.

The three-unit plant operated by the Tennessee Valley Authority is located near Athens, Ala., about 32 miles west of Huntsville.

The meeting is scheduled to begin at 4:30 p.m. CDT at the Calhoun Community College's Aerospace Training Center, 6250 Highway 31 North in Tanner. During the first session, NRC officials will detail the plant's performance during 2013 and explain the increased oversight and inspections each unit will continue to receive in 2014.

"Our resident and region-based inspectors spend many hours monitoring plant activities to ensure that the plant operates safely," said NRC Region II Administrator Victor McCree. "We hold these meetings every year to make our staff available to people who live close to the plant and answer questions about our oversight."

The annual [performance letter](#) sent from the NRC Region II office to plant officials addresses the performance of the plant during 2013 and will serve as the basis for the meeting discussion.

The NRC review concluded that the Browns Ferry plant operated in a manner that preserved public health and safety and protected the environment. The annual assessment reports that the plant has "made some gains toward improved performance" due to the implementation of an integrated improvement plan and an improved understanding of the importance of a strong safety culture.

The NRC uses color-coded inspection findings and performance indicators to assess plant performance. The colors start with green, which has very low safety significance, to white, yellow or red, based on the significance of the issues. Inspection findings and performance indicators are updated on the NRC's website each quarter. Data on the performance of each Browns Ferry reactor (Unit 1, Unit 2 and Unit 3) is available.

During the second portion of the meeting, NRC officials will discuss the results of a supplemental inspection completed at Browns Ferry in April. It reviewed TVA's evaluations and corrective actions associated with two issues of low to moderate safety significance: a finding

associated with fire response procedures and a performance indicator linked to the plant's emergency diesel generators.