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NRC Assigns New Senior Resident Inspector for Hatch Nuclear Power Plant

Nuclear Regulatory Commission officials in Atlanta have selected David Hardage as the new senior resident inspector at Southern Co.'s Hatch nuclear power plant, located near Baxley, Ga., about 20 miles south of Vidalia.



Prior to being named to his new position Hardage had been the NRC Resident Inspector at the Hatch site since 2010.

Hardage joined the NRC in September 2009 as a project engineer in the Resident Inspector Development Program in the Region II office in Atlanta. Before joining the agency, he was a submarine officer in the U.S. Navy and held a number of positions at the Turkey Point and St. Lucie nuclear plants in Florida.

Hardage received a bachelor's degree, specializing in chemistry, from the University of Georgia in 1981 and a master's degree in civil engineering from Florida Atlantic University in 1999. He also held a senior reactor operator license while he was at the Turkey Point and St. Lucie plants. In addition, Hardage is a licensed professional engineer in Georgia.

"Dave Hardage has the knowledge and experience to carry out the NRC mission of protecting people and the environment by helping ensure the safety of the Hatch plant," said NRC Region II Administrator Victor McCree.

At least two NRC Resident Inspectors are assigned to each operating U.S. commercial nuclear plant. They serve as the agency's eyes and ears at the facility, conducting inspections, monitoring major work projects and interacting with plant workers and the public. Resident Inspectors can serve at one site for up to seven years.

The Hatch Resident Inspectors can be reached at 912-367-9881.