

No: III-14-033

July 28, 2014

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NRC Schedules Open House August 7 to Discuss Performance of Davis-Besse Nuclear Power Station

The Nuclear Regulatory Commission will hold a public open house Aug. 7 to discuss the agency's annual safety performance of the Davis-Besse Nuclear Power Station. The plant is operated by FirstEnergy Nuclear Operating Co., and is located in Oak Harbor, Ohio, about 21 miles southeast of Toledo.

The open house is scheduled for 6-7:30 p.m. at the Carroll Township Service Complex, 11080 W. Toussaint East Road, in Oak Harbor. Attendees can have one-on-one discussions with NRC staff members about the plant's 2013 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 III Office in Lisle, Ill. In addition, NRC staff responsible for the steam generator replacement and shield building inspections at the plant will be available to talk about their activities and conclusions.

"NRC inspectors spend a significant amount of time monitoring a wide range of plant activities to ensure the plant operates safely. Our hands-on approach is a key factor in protecting the public and environment," said NRC Region III Administrator Cynthia D. Pederson. "We hold public meetings near the plant every year to make our inspectors available and accessible to answer questions and have open discussions about NRC oversight with those who live near the plant."

The [annual assessment letter](#) sent from the NRC Region III office to the company addresses the performance of the plant during 2013 and is available on the [NRC website](#).

Overall, the Davis-Besse plant operated safely in 2013.

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. The NRC's action matrix reflects overall plant performance and agency response. There are five columns in the matrix with Column 1 requiring a baseline level of inspections. A move to another column results in an increased level of NRC oversight and inspections.

For the first three quarters of last year, Davis-Besse was in Column 2 due to a greater than green security finding. The NRC conducted a follow-up inspection which concluded that the plant has taken sufficient corrective action to prevent recurrence of the problem. As a result, the plant returned to Column 1 in December 2013.

This year, Davis-Besse will receive the detailed baseline inspection regime used for all U.S. nuclear plants. 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. Some of the performance areas to be inspected this year include radiation protection, steam generator replacement and licensed operator requalification program.

The most current performance information for [Davis-Besse](#) is available on the [NRC website](#).