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NRC to Hold Open House on August 25 For Palo Verde Nuclear Generating Station

The Nuclear Regulatory Commission will hold a public open house on August 25 in Avondale, Ariz., to discuss the agency's annual review of safety performance at the Palo Verde Nuclear Generating Station. The plant, located in Wintersburg, Ariz., is operated by Arizona Public Service Co.

NRC staff will be on hand from 6 to 8 p.m. at the Komatke Hall Plaza Gallery at Estrella Mountain Community College, 3000 N. Dysart Rd., in Avondale. There are no formal presentations during the open house, which will provide an opportunity for the public to ask about NRC's assessment of the plant's performance and the agency's oversight plans. Among the NRC staff in attendance will be the Resident Inspectors assigned to the plant on a full-time basis.

NRC gauges plant performance through the use of inspection findings and other indicators that can trigger additional oversight if needed. Overall, the plant is operating safely and is currently under the NRC's normal level of oversight.

“By assessing each plant's performance in a comprehensive manner, we are able to focus our inspection resources on those areas most in need of attention,” NRC Region IV Administrator Marc Dapas said. “Because Palo Verde does not have any safety or security issues rising above very low significance, we are not currently planning any inspections above and beyond our normal reviews.”

The NRC's normal level of oversight at each U.S. nuclear power plant involves thousands of hours of inspection. In 2014, the agency devoted about 6,000 hours of inspection and review at Palo Verde.

A [letter](#) sent from the NRC Region IV office to plant officials addresses the performance of the plant during 2014. Current performance information for the plant can be found on the NRC [website](#).