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NRC Announces Resident Inspectors at Catawba Nuclear Plant

Nuclear Regulatory Commission officials in Atlanta have announced that Joe Austin is now serving as the agency's senior resident inspector and Christian Scott as the resident inspector at Duke Energy's Catawba nuclear power plant, located near York, S.C., about 18 miles south of Charlotte.



Joe Austin joined the NRC as a reactor engineer in the Region II office in Atlanta in 2002. He later served as a resident inspector and then senior resident inspector at the Brunswick nuclear power plant near Southport, N.C. Prior to becoming the senior resident inspector at the Catawba plant, he spent seven years as the senior resident inspector at the Harris nuclear plant near Raleigh.

Before Austin joined the NRC, he worked for Constellation Energy where he held a senior reactor operator license. Austin received a Bachelor of Science degree from the University of Maryland.



Christian Scott joined the NRC in June 2006 in the Nuclear Safety Professional Development Program in the NRC's Region III office in Lisle, Ill. He served as a reactor engineer in that region's Division of Reactor Projects until he was selected in 2011 as the resident inspector at the Robinson plant near Hartsville, S.C.

Scott received a bachelor's degree in mechanical engineering from Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute in Troy, N.Y., in 2005. Scott also received a bachelor's degree in applied physics from Morehouse College in Atlanta in 2006.

“Both Joe Austin and Christian Scott have the commitment to safety and experience to help ensure the Catawba plant meets the stringent NRC regulations designed to protect the public and the environment,” said NRC Region II Administrator Cathy Haney.

At least two NRC resident inspectors are assigned to each 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 NRC resident inspectors at the Catawba site can be reached at 803-831-2963.