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NRC To Hold Public Meeting on Arkansas Nuclear One

The Nuclear Regulatory Commission staff will meet in Russellville, AR, on March 23, with representatives of Entergy Operations, to discuss the 2016 safety performance of Arkansas Nuclear One, also located in Russellville, AR.

The meeting, which will be open to the public, is scheduled to begin at 5:30 p.m., in the Reeves E. Richie Training Center, 1448 S.R. 333, Russellville. The public is invited to observe the meeting and will have an opportunity to ask questions or make comments following the business portion of the meeting.

A [letter](#) sent from the NRC Region IV office to plant officials addresses the performance of the plant in 2016. Current performance information for the plant can be found on the NRC [website](#).

“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 Kriss Kennedy said. “Overall, the plant operated safely in 2016. However, Arkansas Nuclear One is receiving the highest level of NRC oversight following two safety findings of substantial significance.”

Specifically, in June 2014, the NRC issued yellow findings to Arkansas Nuclear One in connection with a 2013 heavy equipment handling incident at the plant. In January 2015, the NRC issued yellow findings associated with degraded flood protection at the plant.

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; plants in Column 5 are not permitted to operate. The NRC increases the level of oversight and inspection as plant performance deteriorates. Arkansas Nuclear One was placed in Column 4 of the NRC Action Matrix on March 4, 2015.

Additional information about the plant is available at a [special page](#) on the NRC website.