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NRC to Discuss 2016 Performance of Farley Nuclear Plant

Nuclear Regulatory Commission staff members will be available to discuss the 2016 safety performance of the Farley nuclear power plant, operated by Southern Nuclear, during an open house planned for March 29 in Dothan, Ala.

The Farley plant is located near Columbia, Ala., about 18 miles east of Dothan.

The open house will run from 2-3 p.m. at the Dothan-Houston County Public Library, 445 North Oates St., in Dothan. Inspectors and managers responsible for NRC oversight of the plant, including the site-based resident inspectors, will be on hand to discuss the plant's regulatory performance and NRC inspections.

Overall, the Farley plant operated safely during 2016 and met NRC requirements. At the end of the year, the plant had no inspection findings or performance indicators outside the normal band. As a result, it is currently under the NRC's baseline level of oversight, which entails thousands of hours of inspection each year.

“Our annual assessments of each plant provide a valuable, broad picture of plant safety performance and help us plan our future inspections,” NRC Region II Administrator Cathy Haney said. “Based on our assessments of Farley throughout 2016, we will continue the normal level of oversight in 2017 unless there are events or performance issues that cause a change.”

Under the NRC's Reactor Oversight Process, the agency assesses plant performance through the use of color-coded inspection findings and performance indicators, which are statistical measurements of plant performance. Any inspection findings or performance indicators that are greater than green (very low safety significance) can result in increased NRC oversight.

Routine inspections are performed by resident inspectors assigned to the plant. Reviews are also carried out at the sites by specialist inspectors assigned to the agency's Region II office in Atlanta.

The [annual assessment letter](#) for Farley, as well as the notice for the meeting, are available on the NRC website. Current performance information for [Unit 1](#) and [Unit 2](#) is also available.