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NRC To Conduct Open House to Discuss 2016 Performance of Oconee Nuclear Station

Nuclear Regulatory Commission staff will be available to discuss the 2016 safety performance of the Oconee nuclear power station, operated by Duke Energy, during an open house planned for Tuesday, April 4, at the plant site near Seneca, S.C., about 30 miles west of Greenville.

The open house will run from 5:30-6:30 p.m. at the World of Energy at the Oconee site, 7812 Rochester Hwy, near Seneca. 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 Oconee plant operated safely during 2016 and met NRC requirements. As of the end of 2016, 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 Oconee 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) trigger 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 Oconee, as well as the notice for the meeting, are available on the NRC website. Current performance information for [Unit 1](#), [Unit 2](#) and [Unit 3](#) is also available.