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NRC to Conduct Open House to Discuss 2016 Performance of Byron Nuclear Power Plant

Nuclear Regulatory Commission staff will be available to discuss the 2016 safety performance of the Byron nuclear power plant operated by Exelon Generation Company, LLC, during an open house planned for April 24, in Byron, Ill. The two-unit plant is located in Byron, 17 miles southwest of Rockford.

The open house will be held from 6-7 p.m., CDT, at the Jarrett Prairie Center, 7993 North River Road. On hand to discuss the plant's performance and the NRC's oversight of the facility will be agency employees responsible for inspections of the plant, including the resident inspectors based at the site on a full-time basis.

Overall, the Byron plant operated safely during 2016. At the end of last 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.

"This meeting allows us to talk directly with the local community, answer questions and address any concerns about the agency or plant performance," NRC Region III Administrator Cynthia D. Pederson said. "Our annual assessments provide a valuable, big-picture view of the plant's safety performance and help guide our reviews going forward. Based on the assessments of Byron throughout 2016, the appropriate level of oversight for this year will be the normal level of scrutiny, barring any changes in performance."

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

Day-to-day inspections are performed by two resident inspectors assigned to the plant. Reviews are also carried out at the sites by specialist inspectors assigned to the agency's Region III office in Lisle, Ill.

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