

NRC NEWS

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NRC Schedules Open House to Discuss 2016 Performance of Hatch Nuclear Plant

Nuclear Regulatory Commission staff members will be available to discuss the 2016 safety performance of the Hatch nuclear power plant, operated by Southern Nuclear Operating Co., during an open house planned for April 26 in Baxley, Ga.

The Hatch plant is located near Baxley, about 20 miles south of Vidalia, Ga.

The open house will run from 5-6:30 p.m., at the Appling County Courthouse, 36 S. Main St. in Baxley. 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.

The Hatch plant operated safely during 2016 and met NRC requirements. At 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.

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 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.

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 <u>annual assessment letter</u> for Hatch, as well as the notice for the open house, are available on the NRC website at <u>www.nrc.gov</u>. Current performance information for Hatch <u>Unit 1</u> and <u>Unit 2</u> is also available.