

No: II-17-026

April 17, 2017

CONTACT: Roger Hannah 404-997-4417
Joey Ledford 404-997-4416

NRC to Discuss 2016 Vogtle Nuclear Performance and Construction

Nuclear Regulatory Commission staff members will be available at an open house scheduled for April 27 to discuss the agency's 2016 safety assessment of the Vogtle nuclear plant's two operating units as well as the inspection and oversight of the two new units under construction.

The plant, operated by Southern Nuclear Operating Co., is located near Waynesboro, Ga., about 26 miles southeast of Augusta.

The open houses and poster sessions will begin at 6 p.m., in the auditorium of Augusta Technical College, 216 GA-24 in Waynesboro.

Inspectors and managers responsible for NRC oversight of the plant, including the site-based resident inspectors for both operation and construction, will be on hand to discuss the plant's regulatory performance and NRC inspections.

Overall, Vogtle Units 1 and 2 operated safely during 2016 and met NRC requirements. During 2016, the plant was subject to the lowest level of increased NRC oversight based on inspection findings in the security area. However, after NRC inspectors confirmed actions had been taken to address those issues, both units returned to the NRC's baseline level of oversight, which entails thousands of hours of inspection each year.

The NRC's construction inspection staff found that Units 3 and 4 were being built in a manner that protected public health and safety and met all regulatory objectives.

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 at both the operating units and the construction site 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 Vogtle Units 1 and 2, 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.

The [construction assessment letter](#) for Units 3 and 4 is also available online at www.nrc.gov.