



# NRC NEWS

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## NRC Names New Senior Resident Inspector at Hatch Nuclear Power Plant

Nuclear Regulatory Commission officials in Atlanta have selected Richard Smith as the senior resident inspector at Southern Nuclear Operating Co.'s Hatch nuclear power plant near Baxley, Ga., located approximately 20 miles south of Vidalia.



Smith joined the NRC in 2004 and has held numerous positions, including resident inspector at the Davis-Besse nuclear power plant in Ohio and senior resident inspector at the Grand Gulf nuclear power plant in Mississippi. He also worked emergency response in the NRC's Region IV office in Texas and has led and participated in several NRC inspection teams.

Before joining the agency, Smith began his career as a U.S. Navy officer aboard the USS George Washington Carver. After leaving the Navy, Smith became a licensed senior reactor operator at the Hatch plant, where he held various positions from 1986 until 2004.

Smith, a native of Bethpage, N.Y., received his Bachelor of Science degree in Mathematics from the University of Nebraska in 1980.

At least two NRC resident inspectors are assigned to each operating U.S. commercial nuclear power plant. They serve as the agency's eyes and ears at the facility, conducting inspections, monitoring major work projects and interacting with plant workers and the public. Resident inspectors can serve at a reactor site for up to seven years.

The Hatch resident inspectors can be reached at 404-997-5163.