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NRC Names New Resident Inspector at Harris Nuclear Power Plant

Nuclear Regulatory Commission officials in Atlanta have named Casey Smith as the agency's new resident inspector at the Harris nuclear power plant located in New Hill, North Carolina, approximately 20 miles southwest of Raleigh, North Carolina.

Smith joined the NRC in 2019 and worked as a reactor engineer with the Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation, reviewing risk-informed actions. She joined the Region II office and completed the Resident Inspector Development Program before arriving at the Harris nuclear power plant.

"Casey has the drive, training, and experience to excel as a resident inspector. She will help maintain the agency's high standards for regulation of commercial nuclear power plants," said NRC Region II Administrator Laura Dudes.

Smith holds a bachelor's degree in engineering and worked in the nuclear industry before beginning her career with the NRC. She joins NRC Senior Resident Inspector John Zeiler at the Harris facility, operated by Duke Energy.

Resident inspectors have a variety of backgrounds. Most join the NRC with engineering or science degrees and receive extensive training from the agency. The rigorous training program educates the inspectors about federal safety regulations and their role in independently verifying licensees meet the requirements at U.S. operating commercial reactors.

Each commercial nuclear power plant in the United States has at least two resident inspectors who monitor day-to-day operations, perform inspections, observe significant projects, and serve as the agency's eyes and ears at the facility.