NRC to Hold Virtual Meeting to Discuss 2021 Performance of 12 Nuclear Power Plants

Nuclear Regulatory Commission staff from the Region IV office in Arlington, Texas, will discuss the 2021 safety performance of 12 nuclear power plants in the western U.S. during a virtual meeting to be held May 17.

The session will begin at 5:30 p.m., Central time. The meeting will be broadcast via Microsoft Teams, recorded and made available on the NRC website. To hear the audio presentation, those interested should call 301-576-2978, password 441 054 054#.

NRC staff responsible for plant inspection and oversight will participate, including the resident inspectors based full-time at each of the sites. NRC staff will make a brief presentation regarding the agency’s oversight process and then answer questions about any of the 12 plants in Region IV.

Arkansas Nuclear One, in Russellville, Arkansas; Callaway, located near Fulton, Missouri; Comanche Peak in Glen Rose, Texas; Cooper Nuclear Station in Brownville, Nebraska; Columbia Generating Station, located near Richland, Washington; Diablo Canyon in San Luis Obispo, California; Grand Gulf, in Port Gibson, Mississippi; Palo Verde, in Wintersburg, Arizona; River Bend, in St. Francisville, Louisiana; South Texas Project, in Bay City, Texas; Waterford, in Killona, Louisiana; and Wolf Creek, located near Burlington, Kansas; all operated safely during 2021. All of the plants will receive the normal level of oversight, which entails thousands of hours of inspection each year.

The NRC Reactor Oversight Process uses color-coded inspection findings and indicators to measure plant performance. The colors start at green and increase to white, yellow or red, commensurate with the safety significance of the issues involved. Inspection findings or performance indicators with more than very low safety significance trigger increased NRC oversight.

Inspections are performed by at least two NRC resident inspectors assigned to each plant and specialist inspectors from the Region IV office.

The annual assessment letters for each Region IV plant, as well as the meeting notice, are available on the NRC website. Current performance information for the plants is also available and is updated on a quarterly basis.