

NRC NEWS **U.S. NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION** 801 Warrenville Road Lisle IL 60532

Web Site: http://www.nrc.gov/OPA

July 13, 2001

No. III-01-039 CONTACT: Jan Strasma (630)829-9663/e-mail: ris2@nrc.gov Pam Alloway-Mueller (630)829-9662/e-mail: pla@nrc.gov

NRC TO MEET WITH EXELON COMPANY TO DISCUSS SAFETY PERFORMANCE AT THE QUAD CITIES NUCLEAR STATION

The Nuclear Regulatory Commission will meet with Exelon Generation Company officials July 19 to discuss the NRC's annual assessment of safety performance at the Quad Cities Nuclear Station in Cordova, Illinois.

The meeting will begin at 1 p.m. CDT and will be held at the station's Training Center, 22712 206th Avenue N. in Cordova. The public is invited to observe the session. NRC officials will be available afterwards to answer questions.

The annual assessment, referred to as the End-of-Cycle assessment, evaluates safety performance at the Quad Cities station from April 2000 through March 2001, and informs station officials of the NRC's plans for future inspections at the facility.

In a letter to Exelon officials addressing the plant's performance, NRC officials said that the plant had performed safely during the assessment period, but noted that there had been a decline in performance in some areas. NRC Region III Deputy Administrator James Caldwell will participate in the July 19 assessment meeting because of that decline in performance which has resulted in increased NRC oversight, including additional inspections.

The areas for increased NRC inspection efforts included plant security, radiation protection planning for work during outages, and the availability of certain safety systems. NRC staff members also met earlier this year with Exelon management to discuss these issues.

The Ouad Cities assessment letter and inspection report are available at http://www.nrc.gov/OPA/ppr or from the Region III Public Affairs Office. Current performance information for the plant is available at http://www.nrc.gov/NRR/OVERSIGHT/ASSESS/index.html.

#####