

NRC NEWS

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NRC TO HOLD OPEN REGULATORY CONFERENCE TO DISCUSS BRUNSWICK NUCLEAR PLANT OPERATIONS

The U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission will hold an open Regulatory Conference with officials of Progress Energy on March 17 in Atlanta to discuss operations at the company's Brunswick nuclear power plant.

Conferees will discuss the safety significance of a Brunswick Unit 2 design review that did not recognize that the reactor feedwater pump speed control system's power supplies would fail to provide power during power supply voltage transients. Progress Energy officials requested the conference to discuss their evaluation of the review's preliminary findings.

The meeting is open to public observation and will begin at 1:00 p.m. in the NRC's Region II office in Atlanta, located in the Atlanta Federal Center at 61 Forsyth Street, SW, Suite 24T20.

The NRC evaluates regulatory performance at commercial nuclear power plants with a color coded process which classifies regulatory findings as either green, white, yellow or red, in increasing order of safety significance. The NRC's preliminary evaluation determined that the safety significance of this issue is white, meaning that it is considered to be of low to moderate safety significance.

No decision on determination of the final significance, any apparent violation or any contemplated enforcement action will be made during the conference. Those decisions will be made by NRC officials at a later time.

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