

NRC NEWS

U.S. NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

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NRC STAFF TO MEET OCT. 28 WITH FIRSTENERGY OFFICIALS TO REVIEW PERFORMANCE IMPROVEMENT ACTIVITIES AT PERRY NUCLEAR PLANT

The Nuclear Regulatory Commission staff will meet Oct. 28 in Painesville, Ohio, with officials of FirstEnergy Nuclear Operating Company to discuss the utility's performance improvement plan for the Perry Nuclear Power Station.

The meeting will be at 6 p.m. in the Barberry Room at the Renaissance Quail Hollow Resort, 11080 Concord-Hambden Road, in Painesville. The public is invited to observe the business portion of the meeting and will have an opportunity to make comments and ask questions of the NRC staff before the meeting is adjourned. The staff will also be available after the meeting for informal discussions with the public.

In August the NRC increased its regulatory scrutiny over the Perry plant as a result of safety equipment problems which have occurred since late 2002 and the utility's failure to take sufficiently comprehensive corrective actions.

"The Perry plant continues to operate safely," said James Caldwell, NRC Regional Administrator. "We want to hear from the company about the steps it is taking to address these past equipment and corrective action problems as well as other measures it will undertake to improve performance."

The NRC will also discuss its planned activities as part of the increased oversight, including an extensive inspection next year to assess plant performance, periodic public meetings with utility officials, and continued inspections by the NRC resident inspectors and other NRC personnel.

NRC inspection findings and performance statistics for Perry are available on the NRC web site at: http://www.nrc.gov/NRR/OVERSIGHT/ASSESS/PERR1/perr1_chart.html.

Documents related to the Perry Nuclear Power Plant are available in the online document library on the NRC's web site at: http://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/adams/web-based.html. Use Docket Number 05000440 in the advanced search function to locate Perry documents. Assistance in using the online document library is available from the NRC's Public Document Room staff at 800-397-4209.