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January 21, 2005 E-mail: OPA2@nrc.gov

NRC CHAIRMAN TO VISIT BROWNS FERRY NUCLEAR PLANT ON JANUARY 27; WILL BE AVAILABLE TO TALK TO AREA NEWS MEDIA AT 2:00 P.M.

The Chairman of the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission, Dr. Nils J. Diaz, is scheduled to visit the Tennessee Valley Authority's Browns Ferry nuclear power plant near Athens, Alabama, on Thursday, Jan. 27, to review the progress of TVA's program to refurbish Unit 1 of the three-unit plant and return it to operation for the first time since 1985.

He will be available to meet with area news media representatives at the plant training center from 2:00 until 2:30 p.m. (CST) to discuss regulatory aspects of the Unit 1 refurbishment project.

Chairman Diaz and members of his senior staff will visit the plant for a first-hand look at ongoing Unit 1 refurbishment work and to discuss the project with TVA management and the NRC resident inspectors monitoring the project on a daily basis.

He has been a member of the Nuclear Regulatory Commission since 1996 and is a former Professor of Nuclear Engineering Sciences at the University of Florida. Dr. Diaz holds a Bachelor of Science Degree in Mechanical Engineering from the University of Villanova in Havana and Masters and Ph.D. degrees in Nuclear Engineering Sciences from the University of Florida.

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EDITORS/ASSIGNMENT EDITORS : Chairman Diaz will be available to talk to area news media representatives on Thursday, January 27 from 2:00 until 2:30 p.m. (CST) in Room 342 at the Browns Ferry training center. Please contact the NRC public affairs office in Atlanta at (404) 562-4416 or 562-4417 if you have questions or need directions. An NRC public affairs officer will be available to assist your representative and will provide each attendee with additional biographical data on the Chairman.

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