



NRC NEWS

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NRC DAVIS-BESSE OVERSIGHT PANEL TO MEET FEB. 22 IN OHIO

The Nuclear Regulatory Commission Davis-Besse Oversight Panel will meet with FirstEnergy Nuclear Operating Company officials on Wednesday, Feb. 22, in Oak Harbor, Ohio, to review recent operating performance and NRC inspection activities at the Davis-Besse Nuclear Power Plant.

The plant resumed operation in March 2004 after a two-year shutdown to replace the reactor vessel head and make other safety system and staff performance improvements. The NRC Oversight Panel was formed in 2002 to coordinate the agency's regulatory activities in response to the problems at Davis-Besse; during the shutdown and startup process it held monthly public meetings with the utility and continues to meet approximately bimonthly.

The meeting will be held at 2 p.m. at the Davis-Besse Administration Building, 5501 N. State Route 2. 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.

"We expect to hear from utility officials how they assess the results of the recent mid-cycle outage," said Steve Reynolds, Chairman of the NRC Oversight Panel. "In addition, we will discuss the independent performance assessments being performed at the plant as well as findings of recent NRC inspections."

A transcript of the oversight panel meeting will be posted in several weeks on the NRC's web site - <http://www.nrc.gov/reactors/operating/ops-experience/vessel-head-degradation.html>.

The NRC oversight panel includes NRC managers and staff from offices in Lisle, Illinois; Rockville, Maryland; and the Davis-Besse site.

Documents on the Davis-Besse corrosion issue, including further details on NRC's oversight panel activities, are posted on the NRC's web site.

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