



NRC NEWS

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NRC TO MEET WITH WESTINGHOUSE NUCLEAR FUEL PLANT OFFICIALS APRIL 12 TO DISCUSS FACILITY SAFETY PERFORMANCE

Nuclear Regulatory Commission officials will meet with officials of the Westinghouse commercial nuclear fuel plant in Columbia, S. C., on April 12 to discuss the agency's latest review of the facility's safety performance.

The meeting will begin at 8:30 a.m. in the Red Room of the South Carolina State Museum, located at 301 Gervais Street in Columbia and is open to observation by the public. NRC officials will be available before the close of the meeting to answer questions from interested observers.

The NRC staff will discuss with Westinghouse safety performance in the major areas of safety operations, radiological controls, facility support and special topics. The evaluation covers a period from December 7, 2003, through January 22, 2005.

The review found that Westinghouse had conducted its activities safely during the period of review and is currently engaged in significant upgrades to its human performance and criticality safety programs. However, it said that corrective actions implemented by the company in response to numerous events in those areas have not been fully effective.

Westinghouse's performance will result in additional NRC inspection effort in the areas of nuclear criticality safety analyses, plant operations and management controls. The NRC will also conduct the next Licensee Performance Review at Westinghouse in 12 months, rather than the normal 24-month frequency.

A copy of the NRC letter to Westinghouse which outlines details of the review is available by contacting OPA2@nrc.gov or from the NRC web site at <http://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/adams/web-based.html> as document ML050800009.

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