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NRC, CONSTELLATION TO DISCUSS LICENSE RENEWAL INSPECTION CONDUCTED AT NINE MILE POINT NUCLEAR POWER PLANT

The results of a Nuclear Regulatory Commission inspection of the aging management program for Units 1 and 2 of the Nine Mile Point nuclear power plant will be discussed on Thursday, Jan. 26, at a meeting between NRC officials and the facility's management. The Aging Management Program Team Inspection is part of an ongoing NRC review of a license renewal application for the plant, which is located in Scriba, N.Y., and operated by Constellation Generation Group.

The meeting is scheduled to begin at 6:30 p.m. at the Town of Scriba Assembly Hall, 42 Creamery Road in Oswego, N.Y. Members of the public are invited to observe and will have an opportunity to pose questions to NRC officials after the business portion but before the meeting is adjourned.

In May 2004, Constellation applied to the NRC for a 20-year extension of the operating licenses for the Nine Mile Point units. NRC reviews of license renewal applications usually take about 22 months if there is no hearing involved and about 30 months if there is a hearing. However, in the case of Nine Mile Point, the NRC staff announced in March 2005 that Constellation had requested a 90-day grace period to allow the company to address issues involving information provided in the plant's application. Those issues were resolved and the company submitted an amended license renewal application, with the NRC staff review resuming in July 2005.

One important aspect of the NRC license renewal process is to ensure that a plant manages the effects of aging equipment through an effective monitoring and maintenance program. Such a program is necessary to permit safe operation for an additional 20 years beyond its initial license period of 40 years.

The current operating license for Nine Mile Point 1 is due to expire on Aug. 22, 2009, while the current operating license for Nine Mile Point 2 is scheduled to terminate on Oct. 31, 2026.

A copy of the Nine Mile Point license renewal application is available via the NRC's web site at: www.nrc.gov/reactors/operating/licensing/renewal/applications/nine-mile-pt.html . Additional

information about the license renewal process is available at:
www.nrc.gov/reactors/operating/licensing/renewal.html .

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