



NRC NEWS

U.S. NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

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NRC PREPARED FOR APPROACH OF HURRICANE SANDY, STATIONS INSPECTORS AT NUCLEAR PLANTS EXPECTED TO BE MOST IMPACTED

The Nuclear Regulatory Commission has made preparations for Hurricane Sandy, with inspectors at all nuclear power plants that could potentially experience impacts from the storm. The inspectors are independently verifying that plant operators are making the proper preparations, are following relevant procedures and are taking appropriate actions to ensure plant safety before, during and after the storm.

In addition, the NRC is monitoring the storm from the Incident Response Center at its Region I Office in King of Prussia, Pa., and from the Operations Center at the agency's headquarters in Rockville, Md.

Activities at all nuclear power plants are overseen on an ongoing basis by at least two NRC Resident Inspectors. In response to the storm, the agency will dispatch additional inspectors to provide support, with still others on standby. The plants receiving enhanced oversight during the storm include: Calvert Cliffs, in Lusby, Md.; Salem and Hope Creek, in Hancocks Bridge, N.J.; Oyster Creek, in Lacey Township, N.J.; Peach Bottom, in Delta, Pa.; Three Mile Island 1, in Middletown, Pa.; Susquehanna, in Salem Township, Pa.; Indian Point, in Buchanan, N.Y.; and Millstone, in Waterford, Conn.

To ensure that lines of communications are maintained, the on-site inspectors are equipped with satellite phones.

Nuclear power plant procedures require that the facilities be shut down prior to any projected hurricane-force winds on-site. The plants' emergency diesel generators are available if off-site power is lost during the storm. Also, all plants have flood protection above the predicted storm surge, and key components and systems are housed in watertight buildings capable of withstanding hurricane-force winds and flooding.

The NRC will continue to track Hurricane Sandy using the resources of all federal agencies and several weather forecasting services.

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