



NRC NEWS

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NRC SCHEDULES REGULATORY CONFERENCE TO DISCUSS APPARENT VIOLATION AT PRAIRIE ISLAND NUCLEAR STATION

The Nuclear Regulatory Commission staff has scheduled a regulatory conference with officials of Northern States Power Company, Minnesota, on Monday, Feb. 25, to discuss a preliminary inspection finding in the emergency preparedness area. The two-unit plant is located in Welch, Minn., 28 miles southeast of Minneapolis.

NRC and company officials will discuss the significance of the inspection finding, which involved the failure to follow and maintain the effectiveness of the plant's emergency plan. The finding did not represent an immediate safety concern.

The meeting is scheduled for 12:30 p.m. CST in the NRC's Region III office, located at 2443 Warrenville Road, in Lisle, Ill. The public is invited to observe and NRC officials will be available to answer questions.

The NRC evaluates regulatory performance at commercial nuclear power plants with a color-coded system which classifies findings as green, white, yellow or red, in increasing order of safety significance. The NRC's preliminary evaluation determined that the violation at Prairie Island was "white," which means it has a low to moderate safety significance.

No decisions on the final safety significance or other NRC actions will be made at the conference. Those decisions will be made by NRC officials at a later time.

The NRC inspection report in which the apparent violation is documented is publicly available on the NRC website <http://www.nrc.gov/>. The number to access the report is ML13024A420.

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