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NRC Assigns New Senior Resident Inspector to Farley Nuclear Power Plant

The Nuclear Regulatory Commission has selected Phillip Niebaum as the new senior resident inspector at the Farley nuclear power plant near Columbia, Ala., about 18 miles east of Dothan. Niebaum joins Jeff Sowa, a second resident inspector at the Farley plant.



Niebaum joined the NRC in August 2006 as a project engineer in the Resident Inspector Development Program in the Region II office in Atlanta. He later served as a resident inspector at Southern Nuclear's Hatch nuclear power plant near Baxley, in southern Georgia. Since 2010, he was one of the resident inspectors at the Tennessee Valley Authority's Browns Ferry nuclear power plant near Athens, Ala.

Before joining the agency, he was a reactor operator in the U.S. Navy, a system engineer at Siemens Westinghouse Power Corp. and was in the Shift Test Engineer qualification program at Norfolk Naval Shipyard. Niebaum received a Bachelor of Science degree, specializing in mechanical engineering, from the University of Central Florida in May 2000.

"Phil Niebaum has the experience and safety commitment to carry out the NRC's mission of protecting people and the environment and to help ensure the safe operation of the Farley plant," said NRC Region II Administrator Victor McCree.

Each U.S. commercial nuclear power plant site has at least two NRC resident inspectors. They serve as the agency's eyes and ears at the facility, conducting regular inspections, monitoring significant work projects, and interacting with plant workers and the public. Resident inspectors can be assigned to any one site for up to seven years.

The Farley plant resident inspectors can be reached by calling 334-899-3386.