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NRC Assigns New Resident Inspector to Oconee Nuclear Power Plant



Nuclear Regulatory Commission officials have selected Natasha Childs as a resident inspector for Duke Energy's Oconee nuclear power plant, located near Seneca, S.C., about 30 miles west of Greenville.

Childs joined the NRC in October 2008 as a project engineer in the Resident Inspector Development Program in the NRC's Region II office in Atlanta. She successfully completed the Resident Inspector Qualification Program and was the resident inspector at the Crystal River nuclear plant in Florida until she moved to the Oconee plant.

Prior to joining the NRC, Childs spent eight years working as a design engineer and system engineer at the Palisades nuclear plant in Michigan and the Watts Bar nuclear plant in Tennessee.

Childs attended the University of Illinois in Champaign, where she received a Bachelor of Science degree in Mechanical Engineering.

"Natasha Childs has the dedication and experience to carry out the NRC mission of protecting people and the environment, and to help ensure the safe operation of the Oconee plant," said NRC Region II Administrator Victor McCree.

At least two NRC resident inspectors are assigned to each U.S. commercial nuclear plant. They serve as the agency's eyes and ears at the facility, conducting inspections, monitoring major work projects and interacting with plant workers and the public. Resident inspectors can serve at one site for up to seven years.

Childs joins NRC Senior Resident Inspector Eddy Crowe and Resident Inspector Greg Croon at the Oconee site. The Oconee resident inspectors can be reached at 864-882-6927.