

NRC NEWS Office of Public Affairs, Region II

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NRC Schedules Open House April 16 to Discuss Agency's Assessment of Hatch Nuclear Power Plant

The Nuclear Regulatory Commission staff has scheduled an open house for April 16 to discuss the agency's 2013 annual assessment of the Hatch nuclear power plant with the public. The plant, operated by Southern Nuclear Operating Co., is located near Baxley, Ga., about 20 miles south of Vidalia.

The open house is scheduled to run from 1-3 p.m. at the Southeastern Technical College, Conference Room 171, 3001 East First St., in Vidalia.

NRC staff members will be available to answer questions on the performance of the Hatch plant, as well as the overall NRC role in ensuring safe plant operations.

"Our resident and region-based inspectors spend many hours monitoring plant activities to ensure that the plant operates safely," said NRC Region II Administrator Victor McCree. "We hold these meetings every year to make our staff available to people who live close to the plant and answer questions about our oversight."

A <u>letter</u> sent from the NRC Region II office to plant officials addresses the performance of both Hatch units during 2013.

During 2013, the NRC found that both Hatch units operated in a manner that preserved public health and safety and met all NRC objectives. The plant will receive the NRC's normal detailed inspections in 2014.

In addition to those inspections, the NRC staff also plans to review the plant's efforts related to an industry-wide initiative to control degradation of underground piping.

Inspections are carried out by the NRC resident inspectors assigned to the plant and by specialized inspectors from the Region II office in Atlanta.

Current performance information for Hatch <u>Unit 1</u> and <u>Unit 2</u> is available on the NRC website.