



NRC NEWS

U.S. NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

Office of Public Affairs, Region II
245 Peachtree Center Ave., NE, Suite 1200
Atlanta, GA 30303-1257
Site: www.nrc.gov
Blog: <http://public-blog.nrc-gateway.gov>

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CONTACT: Roger Hannah (404) 997-4417
Joey Ledford (404) 997-4416

E-mail: OPA2.Resource@nrc.gov

NRC SCHEDULES REGULATORY CONFERENCE TO DISCUSS APPARENT VIOLATIONS AT OCONEE NUCLEAR PLANT

The Nuclear Regulatory Commission staff has scheduled a regulatory conference with officials of Duke Energy on Nov. 16 to discuss apparent violations of NRC requirements involving the condition of the Oconee nuclear plant's standby shutdown facility, which is used when normal and other emergency systems are unavailable.

Oconee is operated by Duke Energy near Seneca, S.C., about 30 miles west of Greenville.

NRC and Duke officials will discuss the safety significance of two apparent violations related to the inoperability of electrical breakers needed for the standby shutdown facility to function. The standby shutdown facility is a redundant emergency safety system used to safely shut down the reactors under certain conditions.

The regulatory conference is scheduled for 9:30 a.m. EST in the NRC's Region II office, located at 245 Peachtree Center Ave., NE, Suite 1200 in Atlanta. The public is invited to attend the meeting and NRC officials will be available to answer questions.

The two apparent violations have preliminarily been classified as "greater than green." 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. A "white" finding, the level above green, has a low to moderate safety significance.

No decisions on the final safety significance or possible enforcement action will be made at the regulatory conference. Those decisions will be made by NRC officials at a later time.

The NRC inspection report in which the apparent violations are documented is publicly available on the NRC [website](http://www.nrc.gov) in [ADAMS](http://www.adams.gov) by using accession number ML11277A253.

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