

NRC NEWS

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No: II-16-012 March 24, 2016

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NRC Schedules Open House to Discuss Agency's Assessment of Oconee Nuclear Plant

Nuclear Regulatory Commission officials have scheduled an open house for Thursday, March 31, to provide information on the agency's assessment of the Oconee nuclear plant during 2015.

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

The open house, which will include informational posters, is scheduled from 5:30 p.m. to 6:30 p.m. in the Oconee World of Energy, 7812 Rochester Highway, in Seneca.

NRC resident inspectors and other staff members will be available to answer questions on the safety performance and regulatory oversight of the three Oconee units, as well as highlights of NRC inspections.

"We invite the public to visit with us and find out what we're doing to ensure Oconee and other nuclear plants are operated safely," said NRC Region II Administrator Cathy Haney. "These annual meetings offer an opportunity for everyone, and especially people who live near the plant, to learn about our inspection and oversight programs."

The NRC's annual <u>assessment letter</u> to plant officials addressing 2015 Oconee plant performance will serve as the main focus of the open house, but NRC staff members will be available to answer other questions about the NRC's role at the plant.

The NRC review concluded that Oconee Units 1, 2 and 3 operated in a manner that preserved public health and safety and protected the environment in 2015. Because of that performance, the three units will continue to receive the detailed routine or baseline inspections this year that all nuclear power plants receive.

The NRC uses color-coded inspection findings and performance indicators to assess plant performance. The colors start with green, which has very low safety significance, and then progress to white, yellow or red, based on the significance of the issues. All inspection findings and performance indicators for Oconee were green in 2015.

Current performance information for <u>Unit 1</u>, <u>Unit 2</u> and <u>Unit 3</u>, as well as more detailed information about NRC inspection and oversight is available on the NRC website, <u>www.nrc.gov</u>.