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Contact: Roger Hannah, 404-997-4417
         Joey Ledford, 404-997-4416

NRC to Hold Open House to Discuss
2017 Performance of Catawba Nuclear Power Plant

Nuclear Regulatory Commission staff will discuss the 2017 safety performance of the Catawba nuclear power plant, operated by Duke Energy, during an open house on April 25 at the Rock Hill City Hall Rotunda, 155 Johnston St., Rock Hill, S.C. The two-unit Catawba plant is located near York, S.C., about 18 miles south of Charlotte, N.C.

The open house will run from 5:30-6:30 p.m., and NRC employees responsible for plant inspections, including the resident inspectors based full-time at the site, will be available to discuss its performance.

The NRC concluded that the Catawba plant operated safely during 2017. At the end of the year, all inspection findings and performance indicators on Unit 1 were green or of low safety significance. As a result, Unit 1 remains under the NRC's normal level of oversight, which entails thousands of hours of inspection each year. Unit 2, however, is subject to additional oversight for a white finding of low to moderate safety significance assessed in October related to inadequate preventive maintenance activities on an emergency diesel generator.

The NRC Reactor Oversight Process uses color-coded inspection findings and indicators to measure plant performance. The colors start at green and increase to white, yellow or red, commensurate with the safety significance of the issues involved. Inspection findings or performance indicators with more than very low safety significance trigger increased NRC oversight.

Inspections are performed by two NRC resident inspectors and inspection specialists from the NRC Region II office in Atlanta.

The annual assessment letter for the Catawba plant, as well as the notice for the open house, are available on the NRC website. Current performance information for Unit 1 and Unit 2 is also available.