



NRC NEWS

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NRC SCHEDULES MEETING IN VIDALIA TO DISCUSS HATCH NUCLEAR POWER PLANT

The Nuclear Regulatory Commission staff has scheduled a public meeting in Vidalia, Ga., for Wednesday, Sept. 29 to discuss corrective actions associated with two previously issued white inspection findings at the Hatch nuclear power plant, located about 20 miles south of Vidalia near Baxley, Ga., and operated by Southern Nuclear Operating Company.

The meeting is scheduled to begin at 6:30 p.m. (EDT) in the executive conference room at Southeastern Technical College, 3301 E. First St. in Vidalia.

The meeting is called a regulatory performance meeting and the discussion will focus on corrective actions associated with the two white findings, one dealing with the failure of a coupling on one of the emergency diesel generators and the other related to the failure to establish appropriate preventive maintenance for some electronic components, which also affected the reliability of the diesel generators. Emergency diesel generators provide back-up power for plant safety systems if off-site power is lost.

Members of the public may attend and NRC officials will be available to answer questions after the business portion of the meeting.

Under the NRC reactor oversight process, inspection findings are evaluated using a significance determination process and assigned a color indicating its safety significance. Findings with very low safety significance are labeled "green." "White" findings have low to moderate safety significance, "yellow" findings have substantial safety significance, and "red" findings have high safety significance. Inspection findings with higher safety significance than "green" prompt the NRC to increase oversight and inspection.

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