NRC NEWS

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NRC TO MEET WITH NEBRASKA PUBLIC POWER DISTRICT TO DISCUSS PERFORMANCE IMPROVEMENT ACTIONS AT COOPER NUCLEAR STATION

Nuclear Regulatory Commission staff will meet with representatives of Nebraska Public Power District on Tuesday, January 25, to discuss the status of actions set out in a Confirmatory Action Letter (CAL) issued on January 30, 2003, to the Cooper Nuclear Station.

The meeting, which will be open to public observation, is scheduled to begin at 7 p.m. at Brownville Concert Hall, Atlantic Avenue and Second Street, Brownville, Neb. Before the session is adjourned, NRC staff will be available to answer questions from the public about the safety performance of the plant and the role of the NRC in ensuring its safe operation.

Cooper has been subject to increased NRC oversight since April 2002. The CAL describes steps Nebraska Public Power District officials committed to take to improve plant performance, which have been subject to NRC inspection. In a Sept. 2, 2004, letter to the NRC, Nebraska Public Power District officials informed the NRC that they had completed all of the steps outlined in the CAL.

"The NRC has been independently verifying that Nebraska Public Power District has completed all of the actions described in the CAL to improve plant performance," NRC Region IV administrator Bruce S. Mallet said. "At the meeting, we plan to discuss with the licensee whether we can close the CAL as an oversight tool and the steps they will take to ensure improved performance for the long term."

The CAL can be found in the agency's electronic document system (ADAMS) which can be accessed through the NRC's web site at www.nrc.gov . Help in using ADAMS is available by contacting the NRC Public Document Room at 1-800-397-4209.

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