NRC NEWS

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61 Forsyth Street SW, Atlanta GA 30303
Web Site: www.nrc.gov

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CONTACT: Ken Clark (404)562-4416 E-mail: OPA2@nrc.gov
Roger Hannah (404)562-4417

NRC TO CONTINUE HEIGHTENED INSPECTIONS AT HONEYWELL ALTHOUGH PLANT OPERATED SAFELY DURING PAST YEAR

Public Meeting To Be Held February 22 in Metropolis

The Nuclear Regulatory Commission has issued a report saying the Honeywell Specialty Chemicals plant at Metropolis, Ill., operated safely during the past year, but the agency will continue heightened inspections at the facility until further corrective actions and long-term performance improvements are achieved.

NRC officials will discuss the results of the agency's Licensee Performance Review at a public meeting Feb. 22 in Metropolis at 8:30 a.m. (local time) at the Metropolis Community Center, located at 516 Superman Square. Interested members of the public are invited to attend for purposes of observation, and members of the NRC staff will be available to answer questions after the business portion of the meeting but before the meeting is adjourned.

The NRC reviewed performance at the Honeywell facility for a period from November 21, 2004 until December 9, 2005. The agency said in the Jan. 27 report that Honeywell "ensured that licensed activities were conducted safely during the review period" but that further improvement is needed in adherence to procedures related to conduct of operations, corrective action program management and management of procedures.

A copy of the letter to the company with its enclosures will be available from the NRC Public Document Room in Washington, D.C. at 1-800-397-4209 or electronically from the NRC web site at http://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/adams.html . The accession number is ML060270156.

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