



NRC NEWS

UNITED STATES NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION
OFFICE OF PUBLIC AFFAIRS, REGION II

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MEDIA ADVISORY:

NRC CHAIRMAN TO VISIT BROWNS FERRY NUCLEAR PLANT MAY 4

The Chairman of the U. S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission, Nils J. Diaz, is scheduled to visit the Browns Ferry nuclear power plant, operated by the Tennessee Valley Authority near Athens, Ala., on Thursday, May 4th to tour the site, to discuss regulatory oversight at the facility with company officials and to participate in a license renewal ceremony. Chairman Diaz will be accompanied by Luis Reyes, NRC's Executive Director for Operations.

The license renewal ceremony is scheduled for 2:00 p.m. (CDT) in the auditorium of the Browns Ferry Training Center and will be open to interested media representatives who wish to shoot video or still photographs. Chairman Diaz will also hold a news conference for interested media representatives after that ceremony at about 2:30.

Dr. Diaz has been a Commissioner with the NRC since 1996 and has been Chairman since being designated by President George W. Bush on April 1, 2003.

He has been a strong advocate of risk-informed regulatory decisions with an increased and transparent focus on safety-significant issues. He has been a strong promoter of more timely decision-making, increased security of licensee activities in the post-9/11 era, and more effective internal and external communications for the agency.

Before his NRC appointment, Dr. Diaz was Professor of Nuclear Engineering Sciences at the University of Florida and served as director of a national consortium of industries, universities and national laboratories involved with nuclear power in space. He also served as Associate Dean for Research at the California State University in Long Beach and was at one time Principal Advisor to Spain's Nuclear Regulatory Commission.

He holds a Ph.D. and M.S. in Nuclear Engineering Sciences from the University of Florida and a B.S. Degree in Mechanical Engineering from the University of Villanova, Havana, Cuba.

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EDITORS: Reporters and/or photographers planning to attend are encouraged to notify NRC public affairs officers Ken Clark (404) 562-4416 or Roger Hannah (404) 562-4417.