



NRC NEWS

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NRC SENDS SPECIAL INSPECTION TEAM TO McGUIRE NUCLEAR PLANT TO ASSESS INCORRECT INSTALLATION OF EQUIPMENT

The Nuclear Regulatory Commission is sending a Special Inspection Team to the McGuire nuclear power plant, operated by Duke Energy near Huntersville, N.C. to assess the circumstances surrounding the discovery of some metal caps on oil coolers that had been improperly installed. Those caps, called endbells, are designed to direct the flow of water back through the coolers associated with the plant's centrifugal charging pumps. The endbells were found to have been rotated either 45 or 90 degrees when installed, reducing the flow of water through the oil coolers.

The NRC's two-person Special Inspection Team will develop a sequence of events; review the company's response to the issue; assess the plant staff's analysis, maintenance and corrective actions; assess the extent of condition at Duke Energy's Catawba plant near York, S.C.; and assess the previous performance of the coolers.

The special inspection is expected to take about a week and a half, and the NRC will issue a report within 30 days after the inspection.

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