



NRC NEWS

U.S. NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

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NRC SCHEDULES CONFERENCE WITH FPL FOR FEB. 21 TO DISCUSS APPARENT VIOLATIONS

The Nuclear Regulatory Commission staff has scheduled a meeting with officials of Florida Power and Light Co., for Tuesday, Feb. 21 to discuss apparent violations of NRC requirements related to the company's failure to properly maintain the Turkey Point nuclear plant's onsite emergency response facility.

The plant, operated by FPL, is located about 25 miles south of Miami near Homestead, Fla.

The meeting will begin at 1 p.m. EST at the NRC Region II office in Atlanta, located at 245 Peachtree Center Ave., Suite 1200. The meeting will be open to the public and NRC officials will be available after the meeting to answer any questions. Anyone interested in attending the meeting or participating by telephone should contact the NRC's Daniel Rich at 404-997-4721 or Daniel.Rich@nrc.gov or Michael Donithan at 404-997-4538 or Michael.Donithan@nrc.gov.

The purpose of the meeting is to discuss apparent violations associated with the failure to properly maintain Turkey Point's Technical Support Center, an onsite emergency response facility. Specifically, on two different occasions in 2010 and 2011, plant personnel disabled portions of the TSC ventilation system, which would have left the facility unusable during a radiological emergency had one occurred.

The NRC evaluates regulatory performance at commercial nuclear power plants with a color-coded process which classifies regulatory findings as either green, white, yellow or red, in order of increasing safety significance. The failure to properly maintain the TSC ventilation system has been preliminarily determined by the NRC to be "white," or of low to moderate safety significance.

FPL also failed to inform the NRC of the TSC's inoperability, an apparent violation of NRC requirements. That violation is being evaluated using the NRC's traditional enforcement process and could result in a civil penalty because it impeded the regulatory process.

No decision on enforcement action will be made at the meeting. NRC officials will review information presented by FPL at the meeting and reach a decision on appropriate regulatory action at a later date.

An NRC inspection report with information on the issue is available through the NRC website at www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/adams.html. The number to access the document is ML120260599.

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