



NRC NEWS

U.S. NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

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NRC, DUKE ENERGY OFFICIALS TO DISCUSS APPARENT FIRE PROTECTION VIOLATION AT OCONEE NUCLEAR PLANT ON MARCH 5 IN ROCKVILLE, MD

Nuclear Regulatory Commission staff will meet with officials from Duke Energy Carolinas LLC on March 5 to discuss Duke's apparent violation of a license condition on fire protection at its Oconee nuclear power plant in South Carolina.

The pre-decisional enforcement conference will be held at NRC Headquarters in Rockville, Md., from 1-3 p.m. in room O-13B4 in the NRC's One White Flint North complex.

The agency [notified Duke on Jan. 31](#) that it is considering escalated enforcement action after Duke failed to complete the installation and implementation of the protected service water system at Oconee by Dec. 31 as part of the final steps of transitioning the plant's fire protection program to the National Fire Protection Association Standard No. 805 under [NRC regulations](#).

The Oconee plant has three pressurized water reactors and is located about 30 miles west of Greenville, S.C.

Failure to install the protected service water system is a significant regulatory concern to the NRC because proper installation would improve safety and reduce risk at the plant. Duke requested an additional two-year extension for installation, but the NRC [rejected that request on Jan. 15](#).

At the pre-decisional enforcement conference, Duke officials will have an opportunity to provide their perspective on the apparent violation and any other information they believe NRC officials should take into consideration before making their final enforcement decision. The public is invited to observe the meeting and will have one or more opportunities to communicate with NRC officials after the business portion of the meeting is concluded, but before the meeting is adjourned. A toll-free audio teleconference number will be established for members of the public to participate in the meeting. For details, contact John Boska at 301-415-2901 or John.Boska@nrc.gov before 10 a.m. on March 5.

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