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NRC Schedules Open House For May 1 to Discuss Performance of Calvert Cliffs Nuclear Power Plant

The Nuclear Regulatory Commission will conduct an open house on Thursday, May 1, to discuss the agency's annual review of safety performance at the Calvert Cliffs nuclear power plant, which is located in Lusby (Calvert County), Md.

During the open house, scheduled for 5-6:30 p.m. at the Springhill Suites hotel, at 75 Sherry Lane in Prince Frederick, Md., members of the public will be able to hold one-on-one discussions with NRC staff regarding the plant's performance in 2013, and the agency's oversight plans for the facility this year. The NRC Resident Inspectors assigned to the plant on a full-time basis, as well as their supervisor, will be on hand.

Under the NRC's Reactor Oversight Process, color-coded inspection findings and performance indicators are used to assess plant performance. (Performance indicators are statistical measurements of plant and equipment performance which, if exceeded, trigger additional NRC oversight.) The colors range from green, connoting very low safety or security significance, to white, yellow or red, for an issue of high significance.

Overall, the Calvert Cliffs plant, which is operated by Exelon Generation Co. LLC, performed safely during 2013. At the conclusion of last year, as assessed by the NRC's Reactor Oversight Process, there were no performance indicators for the plant that were other than green (very low risk) and no inspection findings that were "greater than green" (that is, none of the findings exceeded very low safety significance). As a result, Calvert Cliffs will continue to receive the NRC's normal level of oversight during 2013, barring any changes.

The normal level of oversight consists of a detailed regime entailing thousands of hours of inspection. In 2013, the NRC devoted approximately 5,990 hours of inspection at Calvert Cliffs.

"We take very seriously the task of stepping back on a regular basis to size up plant performance. These comprehensive evaluations help guide our reviews for the year ahead, though we maintain flexibility should conditions change," NRC Region I Administrator Bill Dean said. "Calvert

Cliffs, by virtue of their performance in 2013, will receive our routine – though still substantial – battery of inspections.”

The NRC issues reports on performance at each plant twice a year: during the mid-cycle, or mid-point, of the year, and at the conclusion of the year. Inspection findings and performance indicators are also updated on a quarterly basis on the agency’s [website](#). Following the release of the annual assessment letters each March, the NRC meets with the public in the vicinity of each plant to discuss the results.

Normal inspections are carried out by the two Resident Inspectors assigned to Calvert Cliffs. Reviews are also performed at the sites by specialist inspectors assigned to the agency’s Region I Office in King of Prussia, Pa. Among the areas to be inspected this year at Calvert Cliffs are emergency planning, radiological safety, the dry cask storage of spent nuclear fuel and implementation of an industry initiative to monitor the condition of underground piping. In addition, the NRC staff will conduct a post-approval site inspection for license renewal. The NRC approved a 20-year license extension for the plant in March 2000.

The [annual assessment letter](#) for Calvert Cliffs, and the [meeting notice](#) for the May 1st open house, are available on the NRC website. Current performance information is also available for [Calvert Cliffs Unit 1](#) and [Calvert Cliffs Unit 2](#).