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NRC Schedules Open House to Discuss Annual Assessment of St. Lucie Nuclear Plant

The U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission staff has scheduled an open house for Tuesday, March 29, to discuss the agency's assessment of the safety performance of the St. Lucie nuclear power plant during 2015.

The plant, operated by Florida Power & Light Co., is located about 10 miles southeast of Fort Pierce near Jensen Beach, Fla.

The open house, which will include informational posters, is scheduled from 6 p.m. to 8 p.m. at the Energy Encounter, located adjacent to the plant at 6501 South Ocean Drive, Highway A1A, Gate B, Jensen Beach. NRC resident inspectors and other staff members will be available to answer questions on the safety performance and regulatory oversight of the St. Lucie plant, as well as highlights of NRC inspections.

"We invite the public to visit with us and find out what we're doing to ensure St. Lucie and other nuclear plants are operated safely," said NRC Region II Administrator Cathy Haney. "These annual meetings offer an opportunity for everyone, and especially people who live near the plant, to learn about our inspection and oversight programs."

The NRC's annual assessment [letter](#) to plant officials addressing 2015 St. Lucie plant performance will serve as the main focus of the open house, but NRC staff members will be available to answer other questions about the NRC's role at the plant.

The NRC review concluded that the St. Lucie plant operated in a manner that preserved public health and safety and protected the environment. Unit One received some additional oversight and inspection during the first half of the year due to a finding of low to moderate safety significance in the third quarter of 2014. That finding – since corrected – involved failure to maintain watertight integrity of the reactor auxiliary building. Both units will continue to receive the detailed routine or baseline inspections this year that all nuclear power plants receive.

The NRC uses color-coded inspection findings and performance indicators to assess plant performance. The colors start with green, which has very low safety significance, and then progress to white, yellow or red, based on the significance of the issues. All of the inspection findings and performance indicators for St. Lucie were green in 2015.

Current performance information for St. Lucie [Unit 1](#) and [Unit 2](#) is available on the NRC website.