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NRC to Hold Open House on April 21 to Discuss 2015 Performance of Calvert Cliffs Nuclear Power Plant

The Nuclear Regulatory Commission will conduct a public open house on Thursday, April 21, in Prince Frederick, Md., to discuss the agency's annual review of safety performance at the Calvert Cliffs nuclear power plant.

NRC staff will be at the Springhill Suites Hotel, at 75 Sherry Ln. in Prince Frederick, from 5-6:30 p.m. to discuss the plant's performance in 2015 and the agency's oversight plans for the remainder of 2016. On hand will be agency employees responsible for inspections of the plant, including the Resident Inspectors based at the Lusby, Md., facility on a full-time basis.

The NRC's Reactor Oversight Process is the foundational program that enables the agency to successfully complete its mission of assessing plant safety. Under that program, the NRC gauges plant performance through the use of color-coded inspection findings and performance indicators, which are statistical measurements of plant performance that can trigger additional oversight if exceeded.

Based on its 2015 reviews, the NRC determined that Calvert Cliffs operated safely during 2015. As of the end of last year, the Exelon-owned and -operated twin-reactor plant had no inspection findings or performance indicators that were greater than "green" (very low safety significance). Therefore, the plant is currently under the NRC's normal level of oversight.

The NRC's normal level of oversight at each U.S. nuclear power plant involves thousands of hours of inspection. In 2015, the agency devoted approximately 6,645 hours of review at Calvert Cliffs.

"Our Annual Assessments allow us to step back at regular intervals and size up plant performance. However, we view oversight of each facility as an ongoing responsibility," NRC Acting Region I Administrator David Lew said. "In the case of Calvert Cliffs, the plant's current performance qualifies for our normal level of oversight."

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 performed by Resident Inspectors assigned to Calvert Cliffs. Each plant has two Resident Inspectors. Reviews are also carried out 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 radiological safety, fire protection and emergency planning. In addition, the NRC will perform an inspection of the plant's Independent Spent Fuel Storage Installation (ISFSI) and the site's implementation of NRC post-Fukushima requirements.

The [Annual Assessment letter](#) for Calvert Cliffs, as well as the [notice](#) for the April 21, open house, are available on the NRC website. Current performance information is also available for Calvert Cliffs [Unit 1](#) and [Unit 2](#).