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NRC to Hold Open House to Discuss Agency's Assessment of Byron Nuclear Power Plant

The Nuclear Regulatory Commission will hold an open house on July 12 to discuss the agency's annual review of safety performance at the Byron nuclear power plant. The two-unit plant is operated by Exelon Generation Company LLC, and is located in Byron, Ill., about 17 miles southwest of Rockford.

The public will be able to talk with NRC staff members and ask questions about the plant's 2015 performance and the agency's oversight of the facility. The open house, which will also include informational posters, is scheduled for 6-7 p.m. CDT at the Byron Station Training Building, Room 107, 4450 N. German Church Rd., in Byron.

"NRC inspectors who work at the plant and NRC staff from our regional office in Lisle, Ill., are looking forward to speaking with members of the public about the performance of the Byron plant and other topics related to nuclear safety that are of interest to the community," said NRC Region III Administrator Cynthia D. Pederson. "We hold such meetings near the plant every year to discuss how we ensure the plant operates safely and foster an open dialogue with the public."

The NRC concluded that, overall Byron operated safely in 2015. All performance indicators and inspection findings for the plant were "green." As a result, the plant will continue to receive the NRC's normal level of oversight during 2016.

The NRC uses color-coded inspection findings and performance indicators to assess nuclear plant performance. The colors start with "green" and then increase to "white," "yellow," or "red," commensurate with the safety significance of the issues involved. Performance indicators are statistical measurements of plant and equipment performance.

Normal inspections are performed by the two NRC Resident Inspectors assigned to Byron. Reviews are also performed at the site by specialists from the Region III Office in Lisle, and from the agency's headquarters in Rockville, Md. Among the areas of performance to be inspected this year by NRC inspectors are activities associated with radiological safety, equipment designs, and emergency preparedness.

The NRC's [2015 assessment letter](#) and current performance information for [Unit 1](#) and [Unit 2](#) are available on the NRC website.