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**NRC OFFICIAL TO HOLD NEWS CONFERENCE
AT SURRY PLANT IN VIRGINIA ON NOVEMBER 18**

The top Nuclear Regulatory Commission official in the southeast will hold a special news conference at Virginia Power's Surry plant near Surry, Virginia on Monday, November 18, to discuss the agency's regulatory responsibilities at the two commercial nuclear power plants in Virginia and throughout the United States.

Stewart D. Ebnetter, Administrator of the NRC's Region II office in Atlanta, will brief reporters at 11:00 a.m. (EST) in the Theater at the Surry Nuclear Information Center on current regulatory issues at the Surry plant and the North Anna plant northwest of Richmond. Ebnetter will also address NRC preparations for emergency response in the event of hurricanes, accidents or other events.

In addition, the Regional Administrator will discuss the transportation and storage of spent nuclear fuel, NRC's regulation of radioactive material users in Virginia, and the status of and NRC responsibilities relating to low-level radioactive waste in Virginia and the southeast.

NRC regional officials hold these news conferences on a quarterly basis at locations throughout each region to discuss events at regulated nuclear facilities and answer reporters' questions on these subjects.

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EDITORS: The NRC staff will also present the results of the Systematic Assessment of Licensee Performance (SALP) for the Surry plant to Virginia Power officials and plant staff at 1:00 p.m. on Monday, November 18 at the Surry site. That meeting is open to the media and the public and NRC officials will also be available to answer questions at the conclusion of that meeting.

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