

Harris View

SUMMER – FALL 2011

Published for neighbors of the Harris Nuclear Plant

Siren test schedule

◀ Sept. 20, 2011

Annual full-volume test lasting approximately three minutes

◀ Nov. 15, 2011

Quarterly “growl” test (full-volume test lasting approximately five seconds)

All siren tests – both the “growl” and annual tests – are scheduled to occur between 10 and 11 a.m. on the designated dates to minimize inconvenience for plant neighbors. The tests are conducted to make sure each siren works properly.

Tone alert radio test

Tone alert radios, provided to residents within five miles of the plant, will be tested on **Nov. 6, 2011, at approximately 6 p.m.** The rain date is Nov. 13, 2011.

A random telephone survey will be conducted following the test to ensure that the radios worked. Residents who have radios will also receive letters before the test.

Progress Energy responds to Fukushima event

It's been several months since a massive earthquake and tsunami hit Japan, crippling some of that country's nuclear reactors; however, Progress Energy, along with the rest of the nuclear industry, continues to closely monitor the aftermath of those events.

“Since early on, we and the rest of the U.S. nuclear industry have provided technical assistance to the Japanese. And we continue to learn every possible lesson we can from Japan,” says Harris Plant General Manager Ernie Kapopoulos. “Fukushima will undoubtedly bring both short-term and long-term changes to our industry. Incorporating lessons learned from around the world helps to ensure that our plants remain safe and secure on behalf of the millions of people who depend on us.”

Immediately following the Japan events, Harris, along with every other U.S. nuclear plant, conducted thorough walk-downs and tests to verify that the plant could respond to major events such as earthquakes and floods. Also, the Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC), under the direction of President Barack Obama, completed independent reviews of all plants.

The Harris Nuclear Plant is a pressurized water reactor (PWR), a different design than the boiling water reactors (BWR) of Fukushima. The main difference is that a BWR requires

onsite power to remove heat from the reactor core, even after it has shut down. In a PWR, the heat can be removed by releasing non-radioactive steam, preventing the containment building from heating up and pressurizing.

Much of the media attention in recent months has been on the spent fuel pools in Japan. Progress Energy has been safely storing used fuel at the Harris Plant for more than 20 years. The pools are housed separately from the reactor, but in a building that is just as robust, with reinforced concrete walls at least three feet thick. The pools themselves are lined with steel and surrounded by reinforced concrete walls more than six feet thick and a floor that is 12 feet thick. The pools are monitored manually and electronically 24 hours a day. In addition, the Harris Nuclear Plant has multiple layers of backup systems available to cool the pools and the reactor in the event offsite power is lost. These systems are tested on a routine basis to ensure their availability.

While the chances of experiencing a Japan-type natural disaster here are remote, Progress Energy believes every nuclear plant must be ready for anything at anytime – both natural and man-made events. The Harris Plant is committed to delivering safe, reliable, carbon-free energy and, as part of that commitment, will take any lessons learned from Japan to create an even safer environment.

If you have questions about the Harris Nuclear Plant, please email us at harris.plant@pgnmail.com or call 1.919.362.3261.



Sixth Annual Harris Community Day

When: Saturday, Sept. 10

Time: 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Where: Harris Energy & Environmental Center

3932 New Hill-Holleman Rd.,
New Hill, N.C. (approx. 1.2 miles
from Exit 89 heading toward
Harris Lake)

Tour the control room simulator, an exact replica of the plant's control room, and learn about plant operations, energy efficiency, emergency preparedness and lots more.

Learn about nuclear power at the Harris E&E Center

The Harris Energy & Environmental Center features hands-on educational resources and exhibits on electricity generation and transmission, alternative energy, energy efficiency and the benefits of nuclear power. The exhibits, which include a touch-screen virtual tour of the Harris Plant and a 10-foot-tall model of the cooling tower that you

can walk inside, are geared toward middle school through adult audiences.

Group programs and individual visits must be arranged by appointment in advance and are scheduled Monday through Thursday during normal business hours. To arrange a visit, call 1.919.362.3261, or email the plant at harris.plant@pgnmail.com.



A young visitor gets a hands-on science lesson during the annual Community Day.

Twist and Save with discounted CFLs

Progress Energy is partnering with bulb manufacturers and hundreds of local retailers to offer discounts on ENERGY STAR® qualified compact fluorescent light (CFL) bulbs. We have negotiated special savings with these partners on a wide variety of CFLs that are discounted right in the store, requiring no coupons or rebate forms. The discounts save consumers an average of \$1.50 off the price of each CFL bulb. In addition, CFLs use 75 percent less energy and last 10 times longer than traditional incandescent bulbs, saving up to \$30 in energy costs over the life of each

CFL. Simply look for the CFLs identified by the Progress Energy special pricing sticker.

Join other Progress Energy customers who have made the switch to CFLs and purchased over 4.8 million bulbs since January 2010. That's enough to save some 112 million kilowatt-hours of electricity a year – which is equal to the annual greenhouse emissions from over 15,000 cars. Find participating retailers and special lighting events at progress-energy.com/save. Click on "Discounted CFL Bulbs" and then "Visit Progress Energy's Twist & Save website."



Harris employees give back to the community

Giving back is an important part of the Progress Energy philosophy. At the Harris Plant, employees take every opportunity they can to connect with the community ... to give where they live.

In 2010, the site donated 107 new book bags with supplies to students and teachers at five local elementary schools. During the holidays, employees adopted 10 families from the Moncure area. They shopped, wrapped and delivered more than 450 gifts. You might also see groups of Harris employees cleaning local roadsides. In 2004, the plant adopted a 3-mile

stretch of New Hill-Holleman Road. Employees don their reflective vests and grab the garbage bags to pick up trash every quarter.

In June 2011 Harris Plant employees and contractors spent a week replacing the roof and making other long-needed repairs to a home in New Hill. This project was done in partnership with Rebuilding Together of the Triangle, which matches organizations and volunteer labor with low-income homeowners who need assistance with essential home maintenance and repairs.



Harris employees spent a week repairing a home in New Hill.

Potassium iodide pills

Potassium iodide (KI) pills are made available by county health departments to people who live within the 10-mile radius of the Harris Plant; however, anyone can buy potassium iodide at local drugstores. More information about potassium iodide is found on page 5 of the Harris safety brochure.

Potassium iodide is an over-the-counter treatment that can reduce the risk of thyroid cancer from radioactive exposure. People should take the pills only when directed to do so by public health officials.

More information about potassium iodide is found on page 5 of the Harris safety brochure or you can contact your local health department.

- ▶ Chatham County Health Dept.
1.919.542.8214
- ▶ Harnett County Health Dept.
1.910.893.7550
- ▶ Lee County Health Dept.
1.919.718.4640
- ▶ Wake County Human Services
1.919.212.7000

Harris View is published by the Harris Nuclear Plant
P.O. Box 165
New Hill, NC 27652

Questions about the Harris Nuclear Plant? Call us.
Harris Energy and Environmental Center – 362.3261

Email your questions and comments to
harris.plant@pgnmail.com

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Tone alert radios

Residences within a 5-mile radius of the Harris Plant receive tone alert weather radios from Progress Energy. If you have one of these radios, it is important that you understand how to use it properly. The pamphlet and instructions you received with your radio explain how the radio works and what to do if it does not work as intended. Keep the pamphlet and instructions in a safe place near the radio.

You should always keep the radio plugged in, turned on, tuned to the frequency for your

area and located in a place so that it can be heard, especially while you are sleeping. You should also keep a battery in the radio in the event of a power outage.

If there is an emergency at the Harris Plant, a weather emergency, or if the radios are being tested, the radio will sound an alarm. When you hear the alarm, follow the instructions provided with your radio to receive information and instructions.

If you have questions about tone alert radios, please call 1.800.452.2777.