

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

E-mail your questions and comments to  
[harris.plant@pgnmail.com](mailto:harris.plant@pgnmail.com)

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# HARRIS NUCLEAR PLANT Harris View

January 2006

Published for neighbors of the Harris Nuclear Plant, New Hill, N.C.

## Working today to meet tomorrow's needs

Reliable energy is important to all of us. When we flip the light switch, we expect the power to come on. Providing that level of certainty is a responsibility Progress Energy takes very seriously. That's why we're putting our experience and expertise to work now, planning the power plants and other facilities necessary to provide that same level of reliability in the future.

Our communities continue to grow at a significant rate – a record rate in some places. And as the population and economy grow – and as we increasingly rely on technology and electronics in our everyday lives – our demand for electricity keeps growing as well. With 69,000 new residential and business customers in the last year alone, no company is more attuned to that growth than Progress Energy.

We have more than enough generation capacity to meet current electricity demands; but to ensure power for the future, we plan ahead 10 years or more. Our planning tells us that by 2016 another 300,000 new customers in the Carolinas will be depending on Progress Energy to provide reliable power 24 hours a day. And since it takes many years to bring new power plants online, the process must start now.

As we plan to meet this growth, our priority is to provide energy that's as dependable, cost-effective and environmentally sound as possible. Balancing the types of power plants we build and the fuels they use to generate electricity will help us achieve

these goals. Progress Energy currently generates electricity using coal, nuclear, natural gas, oil, and renewables like hydroelectric. Thanks to this mix, we are not overly dependent on a single source of energy.

### Harris is an option

Building power plants is a long, complex process. Selecting a site for possible generation expansion is one part of our planning process to ensure we have the energy our customers need, today and in the future. Nuclear power is one option we need to consider.

After evaluating several sites in the Carolinas, we identified the Harris Nuclear Plant as the best option for possible expansion largely because of its extensive existing infrastructure.

The Harris Plant site fulfills a number of important criteria:

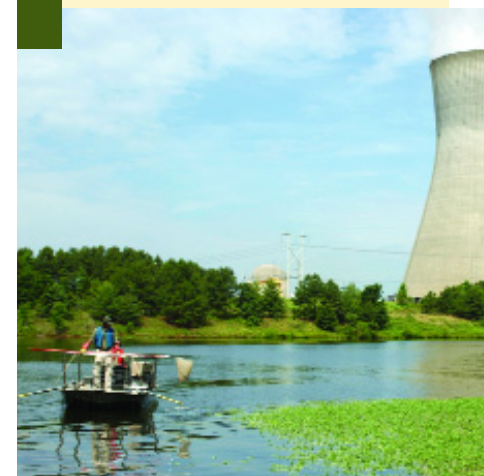
- **A sufficient supply of cooling water.** Water is one of the most important factors in determining the suitability of any potential power plant site. The Cape Fear River and Harris Lake provide a reliable and sustainable water supply now and into the future.
- **Transmission line capacity.** The Harris site already has the electric transmission capability needed to accommodate the additional genera-

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### DID YOU KNOW?

A megawatt (MW) is 1 million watts, or enough to power more than 700 homes depending on the time of year and location.

Visit Progress Energy at  
[progress-energy.com](http://progress-energy.com)



## Tone alert radios



Residences within a 5-mile radius of the Harris Nuclear Plant receive tone alert weather radios. 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 when you are sleeping. You should also keep a battery in the radio in event of a power outage.

If there is an emergency at the Harris Nuclear 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.

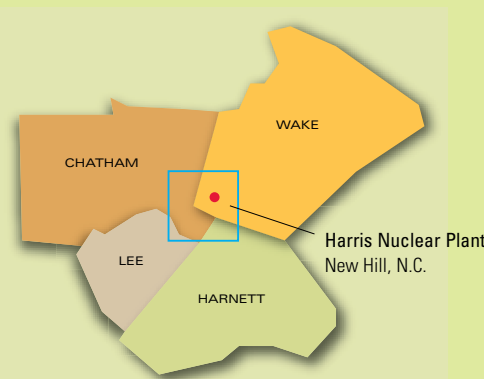
If you have questions about the Harris Nuclear Plant, please e-mail us at: [harris.plant@pgnmail.com](mailto:harris.plant@pgnmail.com) or call 1.919.362.3261.

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> Working today / continued

tion, so most of the power from an additional nuclear unit could travel to homes and businesses on existing transmission lines.

- **Proximity to Progress Energy Carolinas' largest area of customer concentration.**
- **An abundance of available land.** Progress Energy owns a large amount of land in the area – approximately 35 square miles – on which we can expand without directly affecting neighborhood properties.



While the Harris site was chosen to move to the next step in the process, Progress Energy will continue to assess future demand and changing economics before we make our final plans. We're committed to keeping our electricity reliable and affordable, our air clean and healthy, and our economy thriving. Just as important, we're committed to keeping our communities involved in our plans and our progress. We encourage your participation in this important discussion.

## What's next?

- Continue to evaluate our options
- Hold public information meetings
- File combined construction and operating license application by late 2007 – early 2008

# History of the Harris Nuclear Plant

## History of nuclear power

Progress Energy has safely operated nuclear power plants for more than 30 years. The company, through predecessor Carolina Power & Light (CP&L), sited and built the first commercial nuclear reactor in the Southeast in 1973, the H.B. Robinson Plant in Hartsville, S.C. The Brunswick Plant and the Crystal River Plant went into commercial operation in the mid-1970s.

## Building a power plant

Then-CP&L first began investigating the Harris site for construction of a possible nuclear power plant in the 1960s. The Triangle area was growing quickly and it was clear that additional electricity was needed to meet the needs of the company's customers.

In early 1971, after extensive planning, the company announced plans to file with the Nuclear Regulatory Commission for a construction permit to build the Harris Nuclear Plant. The permit, issued in 1978, gave the company permission to construct a four-unit nuclear power plant.

### DID YOU KNOW?

More than 300,000 new Progress Energy customers are expected in the Carolinas in the next 10 years.

While the Harris Nuclear Plant site was originally planned for four nuclear reactors, only one reactor was ultimately built due to changing economic conditions. Population growth had leveled off and energy consumption was not increasing at previously forecast rates.

More than 2,000 employees were hired during the Harris construction phase. Many different types of jobs were filled, including design engineers, nuclear engineers, construction workers, reactor operators, administrative and professional positions, and many others.

After 16 years of construction, the Harris Nuclear Plant began generating power for the Carolinas on May 2, 1987.

## The Harris Nuclear Plant today

The Harris Nuclear Plant has been generating safe and efficient electricity to 700,000 homes each day since it came online in 1987. With its 900 megawatts of power produced, the plant provides 12 percent of the total electricity generated by Progress Energy Carolinas.

Since the Harris Nuclear Plant came online, Progress Energy's customer base has grown by 1 million total customers, including 69,000 in the last year alone. More than 300,000 new customers are expected in the Carolinas in the next 10 years. To meet that growing demand, the company will need to add significant new power generation in both the Carolinas and Florida. The Harris Nuclear Plant site is currently being considered as a site for possible construction of a second reactor.

## Harris Nuclear Plant is safe and protected

A local anti-nuclear group recently made allegations of security issues at the Harris Nuclear Plant. The group called for the Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC), FBI and N.C. Department of Justice to investigate the claims.



It is Progress Energy's responsibility to take all security concerns seriously. In addition to working with the appropriate oversight agencies, the company conducted a thorough internal investigation. While we continue to look at a few of the specific allegations, we have confirmed that the plant is secure and protected.

Progress Energy is confident in the security of all of its nuclear plants, and the officers and guards who protect the facilities 24 hours a day, seven days a week. The Harris Nuclear Plant has a strong operational and safety record, and a history of open and forthright communication with the public. Our employees and security forces work every day to help us meet our goal of safely providing reliable power to our customers and neighbors.

Because you are a neighbor of the Harris Nuclear Plant, we want to make sure you know we welcome any questions you may have about this or any other issue. You can reach us by calling 1.919.362.3261 or by e-mail at [harris.plant@pgnmail.com](mailto:harris.plant@pgnmail.com).

## Community involvement at the Harris Nuclear Plant

The Harris Nuclear Plant is very much a part of the community. Since 1987, the plant has been generating safe and efficient electricity to power more than 700,000 homes. More than 650 men and women work at Harris and live in surrounding communities in Wake, Chatham, Harnett and Lee counties.

Progress Energy has long prided itself on its involvement in the communities it serves. The Harris Nuclear Plant is no exception. Plant employees are involved with numerous local charities and volunteer activities. In 2005, Harris employees raised more than \$139,000 through the company's annual giving campaign. These donations go to such organizations as the American Cancer Society, the United Way and various other charities across the Triangle.

However, support of the surrounding communities doesn't end with monetary donations. Harris employees give often of their time and personal resources for a number of projects in the area.



*In August, plant employees took part in a full day of community outreach projects in Pittsboro to lend a helping hand to the Chatham County Partnership for Children and the Family Violence and Rape Crisis Service Center.*



Harris Nuclear Plant employees participate in an annual Book Bag Drive. This year, employees donated 133 bags. Book bags and boxes of supplies which included items such as notebooks, pencils, paper and rulers were delivered to five schools in our neighboring counties:

- Chatham County – Moncure Elementary School
- Lee County – Deep River and Broadway Elementary Schools
- Harnett County – LaFayette Elementary School
- Wake County – Lincoln Heights Elementary School

The Harris Nuclear Plant is an important part of Progress Energy's generation mix, and providing peace of mind to its neighbors is vital to its continued success. For more information about the plant, feel free to call the Energy and Environmental Center at 1.919.362.3261 or visit the Progress Energy Web site at [progress-energy.com/aboutenergy/powerplants/nuclear.asp](http://progress-energy.com/aboutenergy/powerplants/nuclear.asp)

## Do you have questions about the Harris Nuclear Plant?

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