

## **NRC NEWS**

## U.S. NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

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## LICENSING BOARD TO HEAR ORAL ARGUMENTS FEB. 21 IN NORRISTOWN, PA., ON LIMERICK NUCLEAR POWER PLANT LICENSE RENEWAL APPLICATION

An Atomic Safety and Licensing Board (ASLB) panel will hear oral arguments on Tuesday, Feb. 21, on a request for a hearing on the Limerick nuclear power plant's license renewal application. The session will begin at 9 a.m. at the Montgomery County Courthouse, 2 East Airy St., Norristown, Pa.

The ASLB is the independent body within the NRC that presides over hearings in which the public can challenge NRC proposed licensing and enforcement actions.

The session will be open for public observation, but participation will be limited to representatives of the parties taking part in the proceeding, including the National Resources Defense Council (NRDC); Exelon Generation Co., LLC, which owns and operates the plant; and NRC staff. Early arrival is suggested to allow for security screening for all members of the public interested in attending. NRC policy prohibits signs, banners, posters or displays in the hearing room.

Limerick, which is the site of two boiling-water reactors, is located in Limerick (Montgomery County), Pa. Exelon submitted an application on June 22, 2011, seeking 20-year license extensions for both units. The current operating licenses for Limerick Units 1 and 2 expire on Oct. 26, 2024, and June 22, 2029, respectively.

On Nov. 22, 2011, NRDC filed a request for a hearing on the application. The organization submitted four contentions related to the environmental report prepared by Exelon as part of its application, including the absence of a Severe Accident Mitigation Analysis. The ASLB judges will ask questions of the parties on Feb. 21 as they consider the admissibility of the contentions.

Documents related to the Limerick license renewal application are available on the NRC's website.

Documents pertaining to the ASLB proceedings are available in the agency's electronic hearing <u>docket</u>.

More information about the ASLB can be found on NRC's website.

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