



NRC NEWS

U.S. NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

Office of Public Affairs

Telephone: 301/415-8200

Washington, D.C. 20555-0001

E-mail: opa@nrc.gov

Site: <http://www.nrc.gov>

No. 08-002

January 7, 2008

NRC TO HOLD PUBLIC MEETINGS FEB. 5 ON ENVIRONMENTAL SCOPING FOR SOUTH TEXAS PROJECT NEW REACTOR APPLICATION

Nuclear Regulatory Commission staff will hold public meetings Tuesday, Feb. 5, in Bay City, Texas, to discuss the agency's review of a Combined License (COL) application for two new reactors at the South Texas Project site near Bay City, and the environmental issues the agency should consider in reviewing the application.

The meetings will be held from 1:30 - 4:30 p.m. and 7:00 - 10:00 p.m. at the Bay City Civic Center, 201 7th St. in Bay City. The NRC will transcribe the meeting, including any follow-up answers the staff provides later, and post the transcript on the agency's Web site at <http://www.nrc.gov/reactors/new-licensing/col/south-texas-project.html>. NRC staff will be available for informal discussions with members of the public during "open house" sessions from 12:30 - 1:30 p.m. and 6 - 7 p.m. No formal comments on the environmental review will be accepted during these open houses.

NRG Energy and South Texas Project Nuclear Operating Company submitted the COL application and associated information in a Sept. 20, 2007, letter. The companies seek approval to build and operate two Advanced Boiling Water Reactors (ABWR) at the site, approximately 12 miles southwest of Bay City. The ABWR is a 1,300 megawatt electric design the NRC certified in 1997, and is currently in use overseas. The application is posted on the NRC Web site at <http://www.nrc.gov/reactors/new-licensing/col/south-texas-project.html>. In addition, the application's environmental report is available for public inspection at the Bay City Public Library at 1100 7th Street in Bay City.

Those wishing to register in advance to present their comments at the meeting should contact Cristina Guerrero by telephone at 800-368-5642 x2981, or via e-mail at STP_COL@nrc.gov (the address is STP_COL) by Jan. 29. Members of the public should request special equipment or accommodations for attending or presenting information by that date so the staff can consider the request. Those wishing to speak may also register at each meeting no later than by 1:15 p.m. and 6:45 p.m., respectively. Individual comments could be limited by the time available, depending on how many people wish to speak.

NRC staff will also consider written comments on the scoping process. Comments should be submitted no later than Feb. 18, either by mail to the Chief, Rules and Directives Branch,

Division of Administrative Services, Office of Administration, Mailstop T-6D59, U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission, Washington, DC 20555-0001, via e-mail at STP_COL@nrc.gov , or hand-delivered to the NRC at 11545 Rockville Pike, Rockville, Md., between 7:30 a.m. and 4:15 p.m. on federal workdays.

###

News releases are available through a free *listserv* subscription at the following Web address: <http://www.nrc.gov/public-involve/listserver.html>. The NRC homepage at www.nrc.gov also offers a SUBSCRIBE link. E-mail notifications are sent to subscribers when news releases are posted to NRC's Web site.