



NRC NEWS

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NRC TO DISCUSS RESULTS OF LICENSE RENEWAL INSPECTION FOR BEAVER VALLEY NUCLEAR POWER PLANT ON NOV. 12

Nuclear Regulatory Commission staff will discuss the results of an inspection of the proposed aging-management approach for the Beaver Valley 1 and 2 nuclear power plants on Wednesday, Nov. 12, at a meeting with the facility's management. The inspection is part of an ongoing NRC review of an application seeking a 20-year license extension for the plant.

Beaver Valley is located in Shippingport (Beaver County), Pa., and operated by FirstEnergy Nuclear Operating Co.

The meeting is scheduled to begin at 6 p.m. at the Embassy Suites Pittsburgh-International Airport, at 550 Cherrington Parkway in Coraopolis, Pa. Following a discussion of the results, NRC staff will conduct a question-and-answer session regarding the inspection for interested members of the public.

Under NRC regulations, the original operating license for a nuclear power plant has a term of 40 years. Companies may apply to renew those licenses for up to an additional 20 years, provided that NRC requirements are met.

The current operating licenses for Beaver Valley Unit 1 and 2 are due to expire on Jan. 29, 2016, and May 27, 2027, respectively. On Aug. 28, 2007, FirstEnergy submitted an application for 20-year license extensions for each unit.

NRC reviews of license renewal applications usually take about 22 months if there is no hearing involved and about 30 months if there is a hearing. In the case of Beaver Valley, there were no requests for a hearing on the application.

One important aspect of the NRC license renewal process is to ensure that a plant manages the effects of aging on key safety systems, structures and components through thorough monitoring and maintenance programs. At the meeting on Nov. 12, NRC staff will discuss what it found when it inspected the aging management programs proposed in the Beaver Valley application.

A copy of the Beaver Valley license renewal application is available via the NRC's web site at: <http://www.nrc.gov/reactors/operating/licensing/renewal/applications/bvalley.html>. Additional information on the NRC's license renewal process is available on the agency's web site at: <http://www.nrc.gov/reactors/operating/licensing/renewal.html>.

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