



NRC NEWS

U.S. NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

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LICENSING BOARD TO HEAR ORAL ARGUMENT MARCH 3 ON NORTH ANNA NEW NUCLEAR REACTOR LICENSE APPLICATION

An Atomic Safety and Licensing Board (ASLB) panel will conduct oral argument March 3 in Louisa, Va., regarding the application for a new reactor at the North Anna site near Louisa. The ASLB is the independent body within the NRC that presides over hearings where the public can challenge proposed licensing and enforcement actions.

The ASLB panel will start its session at 9:30 a.m. EST on Thursday, March 3, in the Louisa County Office Building on Woolfolk Avenue in Louisa. The session is expected to conclude by 1 p.m. The session is open for public observation, but participation will be limited to the parties admitted to the proceeding (the Blue Ridge Environmental Defense League (BREDL), the applicant – Dominion – and NRC staff involved in the proceeding). Early arrival is suggested to allow for security screening for all members of the public interested in attending. NRC policy prohibits disruptive behavior in the hearing room, as well as signs, banners, posters or displays larger than 18 inches by 18 inches.

Dominion submitted a Combined License (COL) application to the NRC on Nov. 26, 2007, seeking permission to build and operate a new nuclear reactor at the North Anna site, approximately 40 miles northwest of Richmond. Dominion revised the application in June 2010 to reflect a change in the proposed reactor design. BREDL has submitted objections, or contentions, against Dominion's revised application. The ASLB panel will question the parties regarding whether BREDL's new contentions can be resolved under the NRC's jurisdiction.

Documents related to the North Anna COL application are available on the NRC website at: <http://www.nrc.gov/reactors/new-reactors/col/north-anna.html>. Documents pertaining to the ASLB proceeding, including BREDL's contentions, are available in the agency's Electronic Hearing Docket at: <http://ehd1.nrc.gov/EHD/>.

More information about the ASLB can be found at: <http://www.nrc.gov/about-nrc/organization/aslbpfundesc.html>.

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NOTE: Anyone wishing to take photos or use a camera to record any portion of a NRC meeting should contact the Office of Public Affairs beforehand.

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