



NRC NEWS

U.S. NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

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LICENSING BOARD TO HEAR ORAL ARGUMENT MARCH 16-17 IN VICTORIA, TEXAS, ON VICTORIA COUNTY STATION EARLY SITE PERMIT APPLICATION

The Atomic Safety and Licensing Board (ASLB) will hear oral argument relating to the Victoria County Station Early Site Permit (ESP) proceeding on March 16-17 in Victoria, Texas. The ASLB is the independent body within the NRC that presides over hearings where the public can challenge proposed licensing and enforcement actions.

Oral arguments will begin at 9 a.m. CDT on Wednesday, March 16, in the Theatre Victoria at the Leo J. Welder Center for the Performing Arts, 214 N. Main St. in Victoria. The session will continue at 9 a.m. CDT on March 17. The session is open for public observation, but participation will be limited to authorized representatives of the groups taking part in the proceeding (Texans for a Sound Energy Policy [TSEP], the applicant – Exelon Nuclear Texas Holdings – 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 signs, banners, posters or displays in the hearing room.

Exelon submitted an ESP application March 25, 2010, seeking approval of the Victoria County Station site, which is approximately 13 miles south of Victoria. The ASLB is considering whether to grant TSEP intervenor status. The group has submitted several objections, or contentions, challenging Exelon's application. The ASLB will hear oral argument on whether TSEP's contentions meet the NRC's requirements to be admitted for hearing under the NRC's jurisdiction.

Documents related to the Victoria County Station ESP application are available on the NRC Web site at: <http://www.nrc.gov/reactors/new-reactors/esp/victoria.html> . Documents pertaining to the ASLB proceeding 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/aslbpfuncdesc.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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