



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>

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NRC MEETING WITH PUBLIC JUNE 19 ON ENVIRONMENTAL SCOPING FOR GRAND GULF NEW REACTOR APPLICATION

Nuclear Regulatory Commission staff will hold public meetings Thursday, June 19, in Port Gibson, Miss., to discuss the agency's review process for a Combined License (COL) application from Entergy Operations for a new reactor at the Grand Gulf site near Port Gibson, and the environmental issues the agency should consider in reviewing the application.

The NRC will meet with the public from 1 p.m. – 4 p.m. and 7 p.m. – 10 p.m. at the Port Gibson City Hall, 1005 College Drive in Port Gibson. The NRC will transcribe the meeting, including any follow-up answers the staff provides after the meeting, and post the information on the agency's Web page for the Grand Gulf application at: <http://www.nrc.gov/reactors/new-licensing/col/grand-gulf.html> .

NRC staff will be available for informal discussions with members of the public during "open house" sessions from noon – 1 p.m. and 6 - 7 p.m. No formal comments on the environmental review will be accepted during the open houses.

Entergy submitted its application Feb. 27, seeking approval to build and operate an Economic Simplified Boiling Water Reactor (ESBWR) at the site, approximately 25 miles south of Vicksburg. The ESBWR is a 1,500 MWe design currently under NRC review for possible certification. The agency expects to complete its ESBWR review in mid-2010. The staff will consider any findings concerning the design in reviewing the Grand Gulf application. Information on the ESBWR application is available on the NRC Web site at: <http://www.nrc.gov/reactors/new-licensing/design-cert/esbwr.html> .

Those wishing to register in advance to present their comments at the meeting should contact Tamsen Dozier by telephone at 800-368-5642 x2272, or via e-mail at GrandGulf.COLAEIS@nrc.gov by June 12. Those with special needs for attending or presenting information at the meeting should notify the staff by June 9. Those wishing to speak may also register in person at the meetings no later than 12:45 p.m. and 6:45 p.m. Individual comments could be limited by the time available and the number of people wishing to speak.

NRC staff will also consider written comments on the scoping process. Comments should be submitted no later than July 29, 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 GrandGulf.COLAEIS@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.

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