



NRC NEWS

U.S. NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

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LICENSING BOARD TO HEAR ORAL ARGUMENT APRIL 15 IN GRANBURY, TEXAS, ON COMANCHE PEAK NEW NUCLEAR REACTOR APPLICATION

An Atomic Safety and Licensing Board (ASLB) panel will hear oral argument regarding a hearing in the Comanche Peak Combined License (COL) proceeding on April 15 in Granbury, 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 Thursday, April 15, in the Jury Selection Room of the Hood County Justice Center, 1200 W Pearl St. in Granbury. The session may extend into the evening if necessary. The session is open for public observation, but participation will be limited to the parties admitted to the proceeding (several public interest groups, the applicant – Luminant Generation Company – 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.

Luminant submitted a COL application Sept. 19, 2008, seeking permission to construct and operate two new nuclear reactors at the Comanche Peak site near Glen Rose, Texas. The ASLB granted intervenor status in the proceeding to the Sustainable Energy and Economic Development Coalition, Public Citizen, True Cost of Nukes, and State Representative Lon Burnam. The groups have submitted several objections, or contentions, against Luminant's application. The ASLB panel will hear oral argument on several points: motions to dismiss several of the groups' contentions; amended versions of other contentions; and the groups' attempt to file additional contentions.

Documents related to the Comanche Peak COL application are available on the NRC Web site at: <http://www.nrc.gov/reactors/new-reactors/col/comanche-peak.html>. Documents pertaining to the ASLB proceeding are available in the agency's electronic document library at: <http://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/adams/web-based.html>.

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

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