



NRC NEWS

U.S. NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

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LICENSING BOARD TO HEAR ORAL ARGUMENT NOV. 30 IN PORTSMOUTH, N.H., ON SEABROOK NUCLEAR POWER PLANT LICENSE RENEWAL

An Atomic Safety and Licensing Board (ASLB) will hear oral argument on requests for a hearing in the Seabrook nuclear power plant license renewal proceeding on Nov. 30 in Portsmouth, N.H. 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. EST on Tuesday, Nov. 30, in the Levenson Community Room of the Portsmouth Library, 175 Parrott Lane in Portsmouth. The session is expected to conclude in the early afternoon. The session is open for public observation, but participation will be limited to the parties to the proceeding (several public interest groups, the applicant – NextEra Energy Seabrook – 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.

NextEra submitted a license renewal application June 1, seeking permission to renew Seabrook's operating license for an additional 20 years. The ASLB is considering whether to grant intervenor status in the proceeding to two sets of public interest groups: Beyond Nuclear, Seacoast Anti-Pollution League and the New Hampshire Sierra Club; and Friends of the Coast – Opposing Nuclear Proliferation and the New England Coalition. The groups have submitted several objections, or contentions, against NextEra's application. The ASLB will hear oral argument on several points, including whether the groups satisfy requirements for participating in a hearing and whether the groups' contentions are admissible under the NRC's regulations.

Documents related to the Seabrook license renewal application are available on the NRC website at: <http://www.nrc.gov/reactors/operating/licensing/renewal/applications/seabrook.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/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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