



NRC NEWS

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NRC TO HOLD MARCH 8th PUBLIC MEETING IN PLYMOUTH, MASS., ON LICENSE RENEWAL APPLICATION FOR PILGRIM NUCLEAR PLANT

The Nuclear Regulatory Commission will hold a public information session on Wednesday, March 8, in Plymouth, Mass., to discuss how the agency will review an application for renewal of the operating license for the Pilgrim nuclear power plant. The facility is located in Plymouth and operated by Entergy.

Scheduled to begin at 7 p.m., the meeting will take place at Plymouth Memorial Hall, at 83 Court St. (Main Street/Route 3A) in Plymouth. Directions are available on the hall's web site at: <http://www.plymouthhall.com/directions.html>. The NRC's presentation will include information on how the process works and how the public can participate. Members of the public are invited to ask questions regarding the agency's license renewal review process.

Under NRC regulations, the original operating license for a nuclear power plant has a duration of up to 40 years. The license may be renewed for up to an additional 20 years if NRC requirements are met.

In late January, Entergy submitted an application seeking an additional 20 years of operation for the Pilgrim plant. The current operating license for the facility is set to expire on June 8, 2012.

The license renewal process requires that both a technical review of safety issues and an environmental review be performed for each application. The NRC staff is currently reviewing Entergy's application to determine whether it contains enough information to begin a formal review. If the application has sufficient information, the NRC will formally docket, or file, the application and will announce an opportunity to request a hearing.

The Pilgrim application is posted on the NRC web site at: <http://www.nrc.gov/reactors/operating/licensing/renewal/applications/pilgrim.html>. It is also available for review at the NRC's Public Document Room in Rockville, Md., which can be reached by phone at 1-800-397-4209, and at the Pilgrim Public Library, at 132 South St. in Plymouth.