



NRC NEWS

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Office of Public Affairs Region IV

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LICENSING BOARD TO HEAR PUBLIC COMMENTS AUGUST 28 IN GRAND GULF EARLY SITE PERMIT APPLICATION PROCEEDING

The Atomic Safety and Licensing Board, an independent judicial arm of the Nuclear Regulatory Commission, will receive comments from interested members of the public in connection with the Early Site permit (ESP) application for the Grand Gulf nuclear plant.

The Board will receive comments from interested members of the public in a session on August 28 from 6 p.m. to 9 p.m. at the Port Gibson City Hall, 1005 College St., Port Gibson, Miss. Each speaker will be allowed approximately five minutes to make a statement to the Board.

The Grand Gulf ESP application was filed on October 16, 2003, by System Energy Resources, Inc. (SERI), a subsidiary of Entergy Nuclear. If approved, the permit would give SERI between 10 and 20 years to decide whether to build one or more nuclear plants on the site and to file an application with the NRC to begin construction.

The NRC staff's preliminary recommendation is that a permit should be issued. The staff's conclusion is based on its independent review of the Site Safety Analysis Report and the Environmental Report submitted by SERI, taking into account consultations with federal, state, tribal and local agencies and consideration of comments received during the public scoping process. The staff's preliminary conclusions include a finding that there are no environmentally preferable or obviously superior sites. The staff's conclusions, however, are not binding on the Board, which must make its own independent judgment on the ESP application.

Anyone wishing to submit a written statement or to submit a written request to make an oral statement may do so by email to hearingdocket@nrc.gov, by fax (301) 415-1101, or by mail to: Office of the Secretary, Attn. Rulemaking and Adjudications Staff, Mail Stop: O-16C1, U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission, Washington, DC 20555-0001. In addition, copies of written

statements or requests to make an oral statement should be sent to the Chairman of the Licensing Board by e-mail to daw1@nrc.gov, fax (301-415-5599), or by mail to: Administrative Judge Lawrence G. McDade, c/o Debra Wolf, Atomic Safety and Licensing Board Panel, Mail Stop: T-3F23, U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission, Washington, DC 20555-0001.

Documents related to the proceeding are available electronically for public inspection in the NRC Public Document Room, 11555 Rockville Pike, Rockville, Md., and on the NRC web site at: <http://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/adams.html> . Documents also are available for inspection at the Harriette Person Memorial Library, located at 606 Main St., Port Gibson.

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