



NRC NEWS

U.S. NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

Office of Public Affairs, Region I
475 Allendale Road, King of Prussia, Pa. 19406

E-mail: opa1@nrc.gov

Site: www.nrc.gov

Blog: <http://public-blog.nrc-gateway.gov>

No. I-11-033

Contact: Diane Screnci, (610) 337-5330
Neil Sheehan, (610) 337-5331

September 7, 2011

Email: OPA1.RESOURCE@nrc.gov

NRC TO DISCUSS PROCESS FOR REVIEW OF LICENSE RENEWAL APPLICATION FOR LIMERICK NUCLEAR PLANT, SEEKS ENVIRONMENTAL REVIEW INPUT

Nuclear Regulatory Commission staff will hold two public meetings on Thursday, Sept. 22, in Pottstown, Pa., to discuss the agency's review process for a license renewal application for the Limerick nuclear power plant, located in Limerick (Montgomery County), Pa. The sessions will also provide an opportunity for members of the public to comment on environmental issues they believe the NRC should consider during its review of the application, which seeks a license extension of 20 years.

The first meeting is scheduled to begin at 2 p.m. at the [Sunnybrook Ballroom](#), located at 50 N. Sunnybrook Road in Pottstown. A second identical session is planned for the same location starting at 7 p.m.

An open house will be held for one hour before the start of each meeting to allow interested members of the public to talk informally with NRC staff on a one-on-one or small-group basis. However, formal comments on the license renewal application will only be accepted during the meetings.

Both meetings will begin with a brief staff presentation on the NRC's process for reviewing such applications. Audience members will then be able to comment on issues they believe the agency should consider as the review of the Limerick application continues. Comments on potential environmental impacts of the plant's extended operation will be considered as the NRC staff develops an Environmental Impact Statement on the application as part of its review.

"These meetings will not only provide an overview of the NRC's license renewal review process but also a chance for the public to weigh in on issues the agency should evaluate as potential environmental impacts of an extension of the Limerick plant's operating license," said Bo Pham, a Branch Chief in the NRC's Division of License Renewal. "The NRC will consider all of the comments offered as the environmental assessment moves forward."

Limerick is the site of two boiling-water reactors. It is owned and operated by Exelon Generation Co., LLC. The company submitted the Limerick license renewal application on June 22, 2011. The current operating licenses for Limerick Units 1 and 2 expire on Oct. 26, 2024, and June 22, 2029, respectively.

Under NRC regulations, the original operating license for a nuclear power plant has a term of 40 years. This license term was selected on the basis of economic and anti-trust considerations, not technical limitations. A plant license may be renewed for up to an additional 20 years, provided that NRC requirements are met.

Members of the public may register to present comments on possible environmental impacts at the Sept. 22 meetings by contacting the Environmental Review Project Manager, Lisa Regner, at 301-415-1906 or by e-mail at Lisa.Regner@nrc.gov. Those who wish to offer comments may also register at the meetings within 15 minutes of the start of each session. Individual oral comments may be limited by the time available, depending on the number of persons who register. Those with special needs may contact Ms. Regner no later than Sept. 9.

The [Limerick application](#) is available on license renewal page on the NRC website. A copy is also available at the Pottstown Regional Public Library, at 500 E. High St., Pottstown, Pa., and at the Royersford Free Public Library, at 200 S. 4th Ave., Royersford, Pa.

Written comments on issues to be considered during the NRC's review of the Limerick application can be sent by Oct. 21 to Ms. Regner.

Additional information on the [license renewal process](#) is available on the NRC's website.

###

News releases are available through a free [listserv subscription](#) or by clicking on the [EMAIL UPDATES](#) link on the NRC homepage (www.nrc.gov). E-mail notifications are sent to subscribers when news releases are posted to NRC's website. For the latest news, follow the NRC on www.twitter.com/NRCgov.