

**From:** Priscilla Preston <priscilla.preston@alumni.unc.edu>  
**Sent:** Friday, August 21, 2020 1:58 PM  
**To:** Quintero, Jessie  
**Subject:** [External\_Sender] Comment Period for SCOPING for the EIS for Westinghouse Fuel Fabrication Facility's Renewal License; Docket No. 70-1151; NRC-2015-0039

Dear Ms. Jessie Quintero:

As a resident of South Carolina living in Columbia, SC, I request an extension of the comment period for 90 days beyond the current August 31, 2020 deadline for the scoping portion for the Environmental Impact Statement, EIS, as part of the process of re-licensing of the Westinghouse Columbia Fuel Fabrication Facility, WEC-CFFF, in Hopkins, South Carolina.

Westinghouse has a history of serious problems. Within the past 5 years there have been accumulation of uranium on a scrubber in 2016, an explosion inside a barrel containing nuclear material inside the building, and the leak of an acid and uranium through the building floor and into the soil under the building in June 2018. Westinghouse continues to have non-compliance issues. The presence of radioactive technetium-99 has not been solved and the cleanup is not scheduled to be finished until 2022.

The NRC is making decisions about public engagement on a case-by-case basis during these emergencies. Commissioner Lubinski stated in an April 30, 2020, letter that NRC is considering public engagement through communication technology. This is not a good idea because many people in Lower Richland do not have broadband or reliable phone connections. The NRC promised to Lower Richland residents an in-person meeting to explain the scoping process with stakeholders. This meeting should be done in person using safety precautions.

Scoping comments that the NRC is asking for from the public are about what NRC should investigate for the Environmental Impact Statement in order to ensure the NRC investigates all that it should to achieve the most effective outcome. Extending the comment period will help, not stop or interfere with the NRC's meeting its goals.

These are not normal times. Rules and policies of normal times will not work and need to be adjusted for people in this time of emergency to make sure the public is fully included. This will result in a full, fair, equitable, transparent, and productive process. The NRC has made adjustments for itself and the industries it serves. The NRC should make adjustments for residents in the area as well.

Also, please send me a confirmation notice when you receive this email and let me know the date and day when you will respond to my requests.

Sincerely,

Priscilla Preston

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**Federal Register Notice:** 85FR46193  
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