
Monticello Nuclear Generating Plant, Unit 1 Public Meeting

Meeting will begin shortly

Point of Contact: Jessica Umaña, Environmental Project Manager
Jessica.Umana@nrc.gov

Public Meeting Information:
<https://www.nrc.gov/pmns/mtg?do=details&Code=20240505>

Meeting Slides: ML24127A198

Preliminary Findings of the Environmental Review for Monticello Nuclear Generating Plant, Unit 1 Subsequent License Renewal

May 15, 2024

Jessica Umaña, Environmental Project
Manager

Agenda

- Introductions and Purpose
- Opening Remarks
- Monticello License Renewal
- Environmental Review
- Draft Environmental Impact Statement
Preliminary Findings
- Draft EIS Participant Contact Information
- Public Participation

Introductions and Purpose

- Jessica Umaña, Environmental Review Lead, NRC, Office of Nuclear Material Safety and Safeguards (NMSS)
- Steve Koenick, Branch Chief, Environmental Project Management Branch 1, NRC, NMSS, Division of Rulemaking, Environmental, and Financial Support

Meeting Logistics

- NRC is actively soliciting comments on the draft site-specific Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) to aid the NRC staff's review.
- For this virtual meeting, participants are in listen-only mode until the comment session.
- No regulatory decisions will be made at today's meeting.

U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission – An Independent Regulatory Agency

NRC MISSION

We license and regulate U.S. civilian use of radioactive materials, protecting public health and safety, promoting the nation’s common defense and security, and protecting the environment

STATUTORY AUTHORITY

- *Atomic Energy Act of 1954*
- *Energy Reorganization Act of 1974 split the Atomic Energy Commission into the NRC and the predecessor of the Energy Department*



**Strategic
Plan**
Fiscal Year
2022-2026

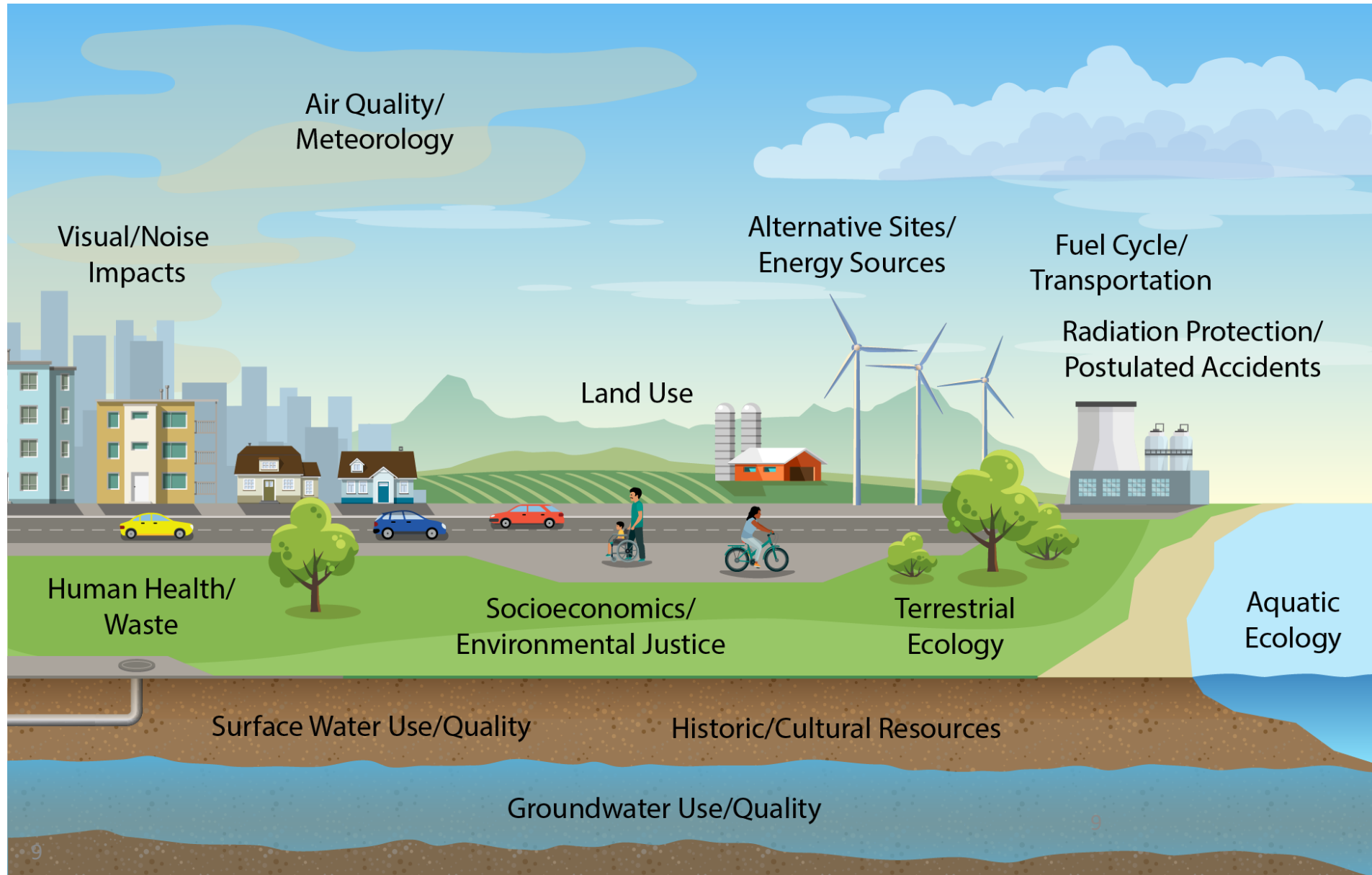
Monticello Subsequent License Renewal

- The subsequent license renewal application for the Monticello Nuclear Generating Plant was submitted on January 9, 2023.
- The operating license was issued on September 8, 1970; renewed on November 8, 2006; and expires on September 8, 2030.
- If a license renewal is granted, it will be for an additional 20 years.

Environmental Review

- Generic Environmental Impact Statement (GEIS)
 - Addresses “Category 1” environmental issues common to all plants (or a distinct subset of plants) during the license renewal term.
- Site-Specific Environmental Impact Statement
 - Addresses Category 1 environmental issues during the license renewal term on a site-specific basis.
 - Includes any new information deemed significant regarding Category 2 issues, and supplements the other information in the FSEIS, as appropriate.

Environmental Review



How Impacts are Defined

- **SMALL**
 - Effects are not detectable or are so minor that they will neither destabilize nor noticeably alter any important attribute of the resource
- **MODERATE**
 - Effects are sufficient to alter noticeably, but not to destabilize, important attributes of the resource
- **LARGE**
 - Effects are clearly noticeable and are sufficient to destabilize important attributes of the resource

How Impacts are Defined (cont.)

- Federally Listed Species and Critical Habitat (Endangered Species Act)
 - No effect
 - May affect but is not likely to adversely affect
 - May affect and is likely to adversely affect
- Essential Fish Habitat (Magnuson-Stevens Act)
 - No adverse impacts
 - Minimal adverse impacts
 - More than minimal, but less than substantial adverse effects
 - Substantial adverse impact

How Impacts are Defined (cont.)

- Historic and Cultural Resources (National Historic Preservation Act)
 - No adverse effect
 - Adverse effect
- Environmental Justice* (Executive Order 12898)
 - Disproportionally high and adverse human health and environmental effects
 - No disproportionately and adverse human health and environmental effects on minority and low-income populations

* The NRC chooses to address EJ, though not required. There is a pending vote by the Commission on addressing EJ.

Draft EIS Preliminary Findings

Resource Area

- Land Use/Visual Resources
- Air Quality/Noise
- Geologic Environment
- Surface Water/Groundwater Resources
- Terrestrial Resources
- Aquatic Resources
- Socioeconomics
- Transportation
- Human Health
- Postulated Accidents
- Uranium Fuel Cycle
- Waste Management

Impacts

SMALL

Draft EIS Preliminary Findings (cont.)

Resource Area

- Historic and Cultural Resources
- Environmental Justice
- Cumulative Impacts

Impacts

- Would not adversely affect known historic properties
- No disproportionately and adverse human health and environmental effects on minority and low-income populations
- See Draft EIS Section 3.15

Draft EIS Preliminary Findings - Special Status Species and Habitats

- May affect but is not likely to adversely affect
 - Northern long-eared bat
 - Tricolored bat
 - Whooping crane
 - Monarch butterfly
- No effect
 - on designated critical habitats or essential fish habitat or National Marine Sanctuaries (do not occur within the area)

Alternatives

- No new and significant information identified regarding the following alternatives
- Alternative energy sources (power replacement)
 - Natural Gas and renewables
 - Renewables and storage
 - New nuclear (small modular reactor)
- No-action alternative

Preliminary Recommendation

The adverse environmental impacts of subsequent license renewal for Monticello for an additional 20 years beyond the current expiration dates are not so great that preserving the option of subsequent license renewal for energy-planning decisionmakers would be unreasonable.

Environmental Review Milestones

Milestone	Date
Start Comment Period	April 19, 2024
Draft EIS published	April 24, 2024
Draft EIS Virtual Public Meeting	May 8, 2024
Draft EIS In-Person Public Meeting	May 15, 2024
Draft EIS Comments Due	June 10, 2024
Final EIS	October 2024

Obtaining the Draft EIS

- Public Library: (printed copy for inspection)
 - Monticello Great River Regional Library,
200 W 6th St., Monticello, MN 55362
- Monticello Project Public Website:
<https://www.nrc.gov/reactors/operating/licensing/renewal/applications/monticello-subsequent.html>
- Agencywide Documents Access and Management System (ADAMS):
 - <https://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/adams.html>
 - Draft EIS accession number: ML24102A276

Additional Information

- Monticello Project Public Website:
 - <https://www.nrc.gov/reactors/operating/licensing/renewal/applications/monticello-subsequent.html>
 - Monticello subsequent license renewal application
 - Environmental report
 - Current schedule
 - Project managers associated with Monticello
- Monticello Correspondence:
 - <https://www.nrc.gov/public-involve/listserver/plants-by-region.html>

Submitting Comments

- By mail
Office of Administration
Mailstop TWFN-7-A60M
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Washington, DC 20555-0001
- Website
<http://www.regulations.gov>, use Docket ID NRC-2023-0031
- Email: MonticelloEnvironmental@nrc.gov

Comments should be submitted by **June 10, 2024**

Comment Period Extension Request

- Send requests to extend the comment period via e-mail to jessica.umana@nrc.gov or marieliz.johnson@nrc.gov.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

