

A digital voice-activated camera system captures the video/audio presentations within the hearing room well and provides a real-time feed via a connector box in the back of the hearing room and outside the LVHF front fence. Media outlets should contact OPA for prior authorization to access this feed.

Flash photography is not permitted in the hearing room. Natural-light photos may be taken in the hearing room 15 minutes before or after a hearing session. Natural-light photos may be taken in the hearing room at any other time only from designated areas in the back of the room. Taking photos must not disrupt the hearing environment.

All cell phones and other wireless communication devices (e.g., BlackBerrys) must be turned off or put in vibrate mode while a hearing is in session. Cell phone conversations, text messaging, e-mailing, instant messaging, or other uses of these devices will not be permitted during licensing board proceedings.

## Print Media

Tables in the hearing room are reserved for reporters covering the session. Use of laptop computers is allowed at the tables and in an area designated at the back of the hearing room. Any interviews must be conducted outside of the LVHF in designated areas.

## Hearing Etiquette

Members of the media should conduct themselves in a manner befitting a judicial proceeding. Conversations should be kept to a minimum while a hearing is in session. There should be no loud whispering or newspaper/magazine shuffling in the hearing room during a session. Anyone entering or leaving the hearing room should do so quietly. No eating or drinking is permitted in the hearing room; use of tobacco products is prohibited. No media interviews will be conducted in the hearing room.

The U.S. Department of Homeland Security Federal Protective Service is authorized to enforce all requirements, rules, and laws. Non-compliance may result in appropriate enforcement action, including removing offending items or persons, barring offending persons from entering the LVHF, and detention or arrest.

## Parking

There is no reserved parking for members of the media at the LVHF. There is limited curbside parking in the vicinity that is available on a first-come, first-served basis. Vehicles parked in an unauthorized space may be ticketed and/or towed.

Media should contact the LVHF manager to make arrangements for the transfer of previously approved large, bulky media equipment from a vehicle into the building.

### CONTACT INFORMATION

**Public Affairs** (702) 435-2934  
(301) 415-8200  
OPA@nrc.gov

**Facility Manager** (702) 435-2972  
LVHFManager@nrc.gov

**Security** (702) 435-2972

Additional information on the NRC hearing process can be found at [www.nrc.gov/about-nrc/regulatory/adjudicatory.html](http://www.nrc.gov/about-nrc/regulatory/adjudicatory.html).

Office of Public Affairs  
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission  
Washington, DC 20555-0001



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## Media Guide for NRC Las Vegas Hearing Facility

Pacific Enterprise Plaza, Building 1  
3250 Pepper Lane  
Las Vegas, NV 89120

This brochure provides guidance to the media for covering the legal proceedings at the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission's (NRC) Las Vegas Hearing Facility (LVHF) on the U.S. Department of Energy's (DOE) application for authorization to construct a high-level radioactive waste (HLW) geological repository at Yucca Mountain in Nevada. Proceedings include prehearing conferences, oral arguments, and evidentiary hearings.

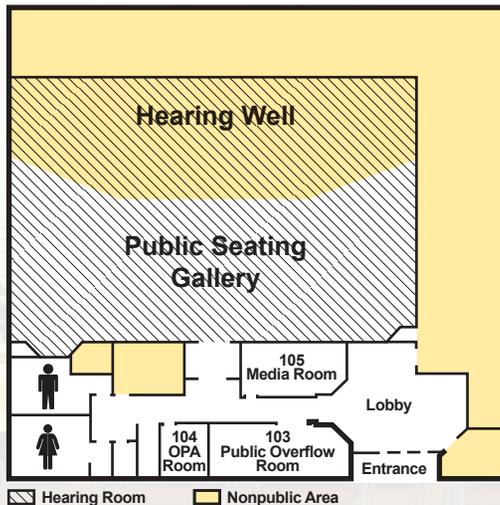
## Atomic Safety and Licensing Board Proceedings

Through the Atomic Energy Act, Congress created the Atomic Safety and Licensing Board Panel (ASLBP), a group of administrative judges whose responsibilities include ruling on issues relating to civilian nuclear matters. Individuals and entities directly affected by any licensing or enforcement action involving a nuclear facility, materials, or waste may submit a request for a hearing to the NRC. When a hearing request is filed, three judges from the ASLBP are assigned to a licensing board, which determines whether the case should proceed to a hearing. The licensing board decides whether the challenger's issues have merit and whether the license should be authorized. These decisions may be appealed to the NRC Commissioners and, ultimately to the Federal courts.

Consistent with NRC policy, evidentiary hearings by a licensing board are generally conducted in the vicinity of the nuclear facility at issue. This allows members of the public who may be most affected by the proposed licensing or enforcement action to attend. The Las Vegas Hearing Facility will be used, when appropriate, by the licensing boards assigned to the Yucca Mountain case. The licensing board proceedings also may be video-streamed to the ASLBP hearing room at NRC headquarters in Rockville, Maryland, and may be publicly available over the Internet at [www.nrc.gov](http://www.nrc.gov).

## Facility Entry and Screening

Media will enter the LVHF through the main entrance and proceed through the security screening process in the lobby. (See floor layout.) All cameras, media equipment, backpacks, brief cases and handbags are subject to security screening. Please allow ample time for this process each time you plan to enter the LVHF. All media must be prepared to display a Government-issued picture identification.



LVHF First Floor Layout

## Prohibited Items

- Guns, knives, and weapons of any kind
- Toxic or hazardous substances and aerosol containers
- Signs, banners, posters, or displays of any kind

The ASLBP reserves the right to prohibit any other inappropriate items. Please note that no storage facilities are available in or around the LVHF; individuals who arrive with prohibited items will not be permitted to enter the facility.

## Use of Facility and Media Room

The media are allowed in all public spaces on the LVHF first floor, including the Media Room (Room 105) that is reserved for working reporters. All interviews and press conferences are to be conducted outside the LVHF in designated areas. (If there is inclement weather, media should contact the onsite NRC Office of Public Affairs (OPA) official for an alternate location.) Media wishing to film or take photos inside or outside the LVHF or to conduct an interview outside the LVHF must follow directions from the onsite OPA official or the licensing board chair. At no time are reporters, with or without cameras, allowed in the hearing room well at the front of the hearing room.

Across the hall from the Media Room is an office (Room 104) where a public affairs officer is available to answer questions or otherwise help members of the media.

## Use of Cameras/Video Recording Devices, Cell Phones/Wireless Devices

Use of still, digital, or film cameras is prohibited at all times in the hearing room well. Guidelines governing the use of cameras in other portions of the hearing room are outlined below.

With prior authorization from OPA and on a first-come, first-served basis, up to four TV cameras will be permitted to operate without lights at designated areas in the back of the hearing room during a session. Fifteen minutes before and after a hearing session, cameras may be moved about the hearing room with prior authorization. Media should contact OPA regarding prior authorization for camera setup and use in the hearing room.