

UNITED STATES NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION
DOCKET NO. 50-313
ENTERGY OPERATIONS, INC.
ARKANSAS NUCLEAR ONE, UNIT 1
NOTICE OF INTENT TO PREPARE AN ENVIRONMENTAL
IMPACT STATEMENT AND CONDUCT SCOPING PROCESS

Entergy Operations, Inc. (Entergy) has submitted an application for renewal of operating license DPR-51 for an additional 20 years of operation at Arkansas Nuclear One, Unit 1 (ANO-1). ANO-1 is located in Pope County, Arkansas. The application for renewal was submitted by letter dated January 31, 2000, pursuant to 10 CFR Part 54. A notice of receipt of application, including the environmental report (ER), was published in the **Federal Register** on February 11, 2000 (65 FR 7074). A notice of acceptance for docketing of the application for renewal of the facility operating license was published in the **Federal Register** on March 3, 2000 (65 FR 11609). The purpose of this notice is to inform the public that the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) will be preparing an environmental impact statement in support of the review of the license renewal application and to provide the public an opportunity to participate in the environmental scoping process as defined in 10 CFR 51.29.

In accordance with 10 CFR 54.23 and 10 CFR 51.53(c), Entergy submitted the ER as part of the application. The ER was prepared pursuant to 10 CFR Part 51 and is available for public inspection at the Commission's Public Document Room in the Gelman Building, 2120 L Street, N.W., Washington, DC, 20003-1527. In addition, the Pendergraft Library, located at

Arkansas Tech University, 305 West Q Street, Russellville, AR 72801, has agreed to make the ER available for public inspection.

This notice advises the public that the NRC intends to gather the information necessary to prepare a plant-specific supplement to the Commission's "Generic Environmental Impact Statement (GEIS) for License Renewal of Nuclear Plants," (NUREG-1437) in support of the review of the application for renewal of the ANO-1 operating license for an additional 20 years. Possible alternatives to the proposed action (license renewal) include no action and reasonable alternative energy sources. 10 CFR 51.95 requires that the NRC prepare a supplement to the GEIS in connection with the renewal of an operating license. This notice is being published in accordance with the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) and the NRC's regulations found in 10 CFR Part 51.

The NRC will first conduct a scoping process for the supplement to the GEIS and, as soon as practicable thereafter, will prepare a draft supplement to the GEIS for public comment. Participation in this scoping process by members of the public and local, State, and Federal government agencies is encouraged. The scoping process for the supplement to the GEIS will be used to accomplish the following:

- a. Define the proposed action which is to be the subject of the supplement to the GEIS.
- b. Determine the scope of the supplement to the GEIS and identify the significant issues to be analyzed in depth.
- c. Identify and eliminate from detailed study those issues that are peripheral or that are not significant.
- d. Identify any environmental assessments and other environmental impact statements (EISs) that are being or will be prepared that are related to but are not part of the scope of the supplement to the GEIS being considered.

- e. Identify other environmental review and consultation requirements related to the proposed action.
- f. Indicate the relationship between the timing of the preparation of environmental analyses and the Commission's tentative planning and decision-making schedule.
- g. Identify any cooperating agencies and, as appropriate, allocate assignments for preparation and schedules for completing the supplement to the GEIS to the NRC and any cooperating agencies.
- h. Describe how the supplement to the GEIS will be prepared, including any contractor assistance to be used.

The NRC invites the following entities to participate in the scoping process:

- a. The applicant, Entergy Operations, Inc.
- b. Any Federal agency that has jurisdiction by law or special expertise with respect to any environmental impact involved, or that is authorized to develop and enforce relevant environmental standards.
- c. Affected State and local government agencies, including those authorized to develop and enforce relevant environmental standards.
- d. Any affected Indian tribe.
- e. Any person who requests or has requested an opportunity to participate in the scoping process.

Participation in the scoping process for the supplement to the GEIS does not entitle participants to become parties to the proceeding to which the supplement to the GEIS relates. Notice of opportunity for a hearing regarding the renewal application was the subject of the

aforementioned **Federal Register** notice of acceptance for docketing. Matters related to participation in any hearing are outside the scope of matters to be discussed at this public meeting.

In accordance with 10 CFR 51.26, the scoping process for an EIS may include a public scoping meeting to help identify significant issues related to a proposed activity and to determine the scope of issues to be addressed in an EIS. The NRC has decided to hold a public meeting for the ANO-1 license renewal supplement to the GEIS. The scoping meeting will be held at the Holiday Inn in Russellville, Arkansas, on Tuesday, April 4, 2000. There will be two sessions to accommodate interested parties. The first session will convene at 1:30 p.m. and will continue until 5:00 p.m. The second session will convene at 7:00 p.m. with a repeat of the overview portions of the meeting and will continue until 10:00 p.m. Both meetings will be transcribed and will include (1) an overview by the NRC staff of the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) environmental review process, the proposed scope of the supplement to the GEIS, and the proposed review schedule; (2) an overview by Entergy of the proposed action, ANO-1 license renewal, and the environmental impacts as outlined in the ER; and (3) the opportunity for interested Government agencies, organizations, and individuals to submit comments or suggestions on the environmental issues or the proposed scope of the supplement to the GEIS. Persons may register to attend or present oral comments at the meeting on the NEPA scoping process by contacting Mr. Thomas J. Kenyon by telephone at 1 (800) 368-5642, extension 1120, or by Internet to the NRC at anoeis@nrc.gov no later than March 27, 2000. Members of the public may also register to speak at the meeting 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. Members of the public who have not registered may also have an opportunity to speak, if time permits. Public comments will be

considered in the scoping process for the supplement to the GEIS. If special equipment or accommodations are needed to attend or present information at the public meeting, the need should be brought to Mr. Kenyon's attention no later than March 27, 2000, so that the NRC staff can determine whether the request can be accommodated.

Members of the public may send written comments on the environmental scoping process for the supplement to the GEIS to

Chief, Rules and Directives Branch
Division of Administrative Services
Mailstop T-6 D 59
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Washington, DC 20555-0001

Comments may be hand-delivered to the NRC at 11545 Rockville Pike, Rockville, Maryland, between 7:45 a.m. and 4:15 p.m. on Federal workdays. To be considered in the scoping process, written comments should be postmarked by May 9, 2000. Electronic comments may be sent by the Internet to the NRC at *anoeis@nrc.gov*. Electronic submissions should be sent no later than May 9, 2000, to be considered in the scoping process and will be available for inspection at the NRC Public Document Room.

At the conclusion of the scoping process, the NRC will prepare a concise summary of the determination and conclusions reached, including the significant issues identified, and will send a copy of the summary to each participant in the scoping process. The summary will also be available for inspection at the NRC Public Document Room. The staff will then prepare and issue for comment the draft supplement to the GEIS, which will be the subject of separate notices and a separate public meeting. Copies will be available for public inspection at the above-mentioned addresses, and one copy per request will be provided free of charge. After receipt and consideration of the comments, the NRC will prepare a final supplement to the GEIS, which will also be available for public inspection.

Information about the proposed action, the supplement to the GEIS, and the scoping process may be obtained from Mr. Kenyon at the aforementioned telephone number or e-mail address.

Dated at Rockville, Maryland, this 7th day of March 2000.

FOR THE NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION.

AR/Scott Newberry for/

David B. Matthews, Director
Division of Regulatory Improvement Programs
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation.

Craig G. Anderson, Vice President
Entergy Operations, Inc.
Arkansas Nuclear One
1448 SR 333 GSB-3C
Russellville, Arkansas 72802

SUBJECT: NOTICE OF INTENT

Dear Mr. Anderson:

On February 1, 2000, the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) received your application dated January 31, 2000, to renew the license for Entergy Operation, Inc.'s (Entergy's) Arkansas Nuclear One, Unit 1 (ANO-1). In support of the application and in accordance with 10 CFR Part 54 and 10 CFR Part 51, Entergy submitted an environmental report (ER). The NRC has prepared a notice of intent that advises the public that the NRC intends to gather information necessary to prepare a plant-specific supplement to the Commission's "Generic Environmental Impact Statement for License Renewal of Nuclear Plants," (NUREG-1437) in support of the review of the application for the renewal of the ANO-1 operating license. Enclosed is a copy of the notice of intent, which has been forwarded to the Office of the Federal Register for publication.

Pursuant to 10 CFR 51.28, Entergy is invited to participate in the environmental scoping process. As discussed in the enclosed notice, the staff is providing the public with two opportunities to participate in an environmental scoping meeting to be held Tuesday, April 4, 2000. The first session will be held in the afternoon and the second session, covering the same subjects, will be held in the evening. The NRC will present an overview of the environmental review process and will describe how the process will be implemented for the review of the ANO-1 license renewal application. Entergy is invited to participate in both sessions of the meeting by providing a brief description of the proposed action and the ER submitted as part of the application for license renewal. The meetings will be held at the Holiday Inn in Russellville, Arkansas. A separate NRC meeting notice is being issued with a more detailed agenda. You will be provided a copy of that notice.

Additionally, NRC staff and contractors plan to be on site the week of April 4 - 7, 2000, to discuss the background details of the preparation of the ER with members of your staff, to perform a walkdown of the site and its environs, and to review documentation. Additional

C. Anderson

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March 6, 2000

details regarding the site visit will be provided to your staff before the visit. In the interim, should you have any questions regarding the scoping meeting, please contact the NRC Environmental Project Manager, Mr. Thomas J. Kenyon, at (301) 415-1120.

Sincerely,

AR/

David B. Matthews, Director
Division of Regulatory Improvement Programs
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation.

Docket No. 50-313

Enclosure: As stated

C. Anderson

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details regarding the site visit will be provided to your staff before the visit. In the interim, should you have any questions regarding the scoping meeting, please contact the NRC Environmental Project Manager, Mr. Thomas J. Kenyon, at (301) 415-1120.

Sincerely,

/AR/

David B. Matthews, Director
Division of Regulatory Improvement Programs
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation.

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Enclosure: As stated

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*see previous concurrences

Arkansas Nuclear One

cc:

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