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NRC RECEIVES REQUEST FROM CP&L FOR USE OF ADDITIONAL HARRIS PLANT SPENT FUEL POOLS

The Nuclear Regulatory Commission has received a request from Carolina Power & Light Company (CP&L) to double the amount of spent nuclear fuel pool storage capacity at the Shearon Harris nuclear power plant, 21 miles southwest of Raleigh, N.C.

The plant was originally designed for four units, but only one was completed. However, the plant's fuel handling building has four spent fuel pools, as originally planned. The current Harris license authorizes CP&L to use two of those pools for spent fuel from the Harris plant and from the company's other two nuclear plants, Brunswick, near Southport, N.C., and H.B. Robinson, near Hartsville, S.C.

CP&L is seeking authorization for the use of the remaining two spent fuel pools through an amendment to the Harris license. The NRC staff will carefully review the company's application, including analyses of changes to the cooling systems for the additional pools, before acting on the request. Interested parties have 30 days after the notice of the application is published in the Federal Register to petition the NRC for a hearing on the license amendment.

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