

**United States Nuclear Regulatory Commission
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NRC ACCEPTING COMMENTS, HEARING REQUESTS ON YANKEE ROWE PLAN

The Nuclear Regulatory Commission is inviting interested members of the public to submit comments and/or request a hearing on the License Termination Plan for the Yankee Rowe nuclear power plant. The 600-megawatt pressurized-water reactor in Rowe, Mass., was permanently shut down in October 1991 and is in the process of being dismantled.

The deadline for submitting comments and hearing requests is Friday, February 27.

Yankee Atomic Power Company, which owns the facility, filed the plan with the NRC on May 15, 1997. In the document, the utility describes how it will meet agency criteria for termination of its operating license and release of the site for unrestricted use. It also outlines how the remainder of the plant's decommissioning work will be carried out.

Copies of the plan can be viewed at the NRC's Public Document Room, Gelman Building, 2120 L Street NW, Washington, D.C., and at the Local Public Document Room for Yankee Rowe, at Greenfield Community College in Greenfield, Mass.

In order for the plan to be approved, Yankee Atomic will have to obtain an amendment to its NRC license. A request for the amendment was made by Yankee Atomic last December 18. On January 13, NRC staff held a public meeting in Buckland, Mass., to accept public comments on the License Termination Plan and the amendment request.

The NRC published a notice in the Federal Register on January 28 stating that it was considering the issuance of the amendment; that it had determined the proposed amendment posed no significant hazards; and offering Yankee Atomic and members of the public an opportunity to request a hearing on the amendment. More details on how to submit comments and/or hearing requests are available in the notice, which can be viewed on the Internet at <http://www.counterpoint.com>.

Written comments may be submitted to: Chief, Rules and Directives Branch, Division of Administration Services, Office of Administration, U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission, Washington, D.C. 20555-0001. They also may be sent to: U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission, Room 6D22, Two White Flint North, 11545 Rockville Pike, Rockville, MD, 20852-2738.

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