United States Nuclear Regulatory Commission

Office of Public Affairs, Region II
61 Forsyth Street, Suite 23T85, Atlanta, GA 30303
Tel. 404-562-4416 or 4417 Fax 404-562-4980
Internet: kmc2@nrc.gov or rdh1@nrc.gov

No: II-99-50
Contact: Ken Clark or Roger Hannah

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
(Tuesday, October 19, 1999)

ASLB TO HEAR LIMITED APPEARANCE STATEMENTS DECEMBER 7 & 8 ON CP&L REQUEST TO INCREASE SPENT FUEL STORAGE AT HARRIS

An Atomic Safety and Licensing Board will hear limited appearance statements in Raleigh, North Carolina, on Tuesday, December 7, and in Chapel Hill on December 8 in connection with a proceeding involving Carolina Power & Light Company's request to the U. S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission to increase the spent fuel storage capacity of its Shearon Harris nuclear power plant near Raleigh.

On December 23, 1998, CP&L asked the NRC to amend the Harris plant's operating license to place two additional, unused spent fuel pools in service. The Board of Commissioners of Orange County, North Carolina, petitioned to intervene. A three-member ASLB granted the Commissioners' petition and is in the process of conducting a hearing on the merits of the request.

Persons not a party to the proceeding will be permitted to make an oral statement setting forth his or her position on matters of concern related to the proceeding. These statements do not constitute testimony or evidence, but may help the Board and/or the parties in their deliberations in connection with the issues.

Persons who have submitted a timely written request to make an oral limited appearance statement will be given priority over those who have not. In order to be considered timely, written requests to make an oral statement must be mailed, faxed or sent by e-mail so as to be received by the close of business (4:30 p.m. EST) on Monday, November 29. The request must specify the date (Tuesday, December 7, or Wednesday, December 8) and the session on that day (afternoon or evening) during which the requester wishes to speak.

Written requests to make an oral statement should be sent to:

MAIL - Office of Secretary
Rulemakings and Adjudications Staff
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Washington, D.C. 20555-0001
FAX - (301) 415-1101
E-MAIL - hearingdocket@nrc.gov

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31
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A copy of the written request to make a limited appearance statement should also, using the same method of service, be sent to the Chairman of the licensing board as follows:

MAIL - Administrative Judge G. Paul Bollwerk, III
Atomic Safety & Licensing Board Panel
Mail Stop T-3F23
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Washington, D.C. 20555 - 0001

FAX - (301) 415-5599

E-Mail: - gpb@nrc.gov

The time allotted for each statement normally will be no more than five minutes, but may be further limited, depending on the number of written requests to speak and/or the number of persons present at the designated times.

The ASLB will hear oral limited appearance statements on the following dates at the specified locations and times:

Tuesday, December 7 - Jane S. McKimmon Conference Center
North Carolina State University
Corner of Gormon Street and Western Avenue
Raleigh, North Carolina
Afternoon - 1:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m. (EST)
Evening - 7:00 p.m. - 9:30 p.m. (EST)

Wednesday, December 8 - *Southern Human Resources Center*
Main Meeting Room
2505 Homestead Road
Chapel Hill, North Carolina
Afternoon - 1:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m. (EST)
Evening - 7:00 p.m. - 9:30 p.m. (EST)

Interested persons may also submit written limited appearance statements at any time by addressing them to those indicated for receipt of requests for time to make oral statements.

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