

RAS 716



SECRETARY

UNITED STATES
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20555-0001

June 23, 1999

'99 JUN 24 P2:23

OFFICE
OF THE
SECRETARY

The Honorable David Price
United States House of
Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

SERVED JUN 24 1999

Dear Congressman Price:

I am responding to your letter dated June 4, 1999, addressed to Chairman Shirley Ann Jackson regarding a petition filed by the Orange County Board of Commissioners (Orange County) in connection with the proposed expansion of spent fuel storage capacity at the Shearon Harris facility. Presently, this proposal is the subject of an adjudication involving Orange County as a petitioner to intervene and potential party. The Atomic Safety and Licensing Board (ASLB) for the Shearon Harris proceeding (Docket No. 50-400-LA) must decide the question of Orange County's standing and the admissibility of the contentions that it has submitted. Under NRC procedural rules for adjudications, the Commission has an appellate role in proceedings commenced before its Atomic Safety and Licensing Boards. Because of that role, I trust that you will understand that Commissioners must remain impartial during the pendency of a case, whether it is before a Licensing Board or on appeal to the Commission.

With respect to your request that the Commission provide a public forum through which concerns about Carolina Power & Light's application can be expressed by citizens in the region, I have enclosed a May 11, 1999 Order of the ASLB which indicates that should standing be granted to Orange County and one or more of its contentions accepted for litigation, the ASLB will issue a notice of hearing and will afford members of the public an opportunity to provide written or oral limited appearance statements on the issues under adjudication. Also, the NRC staff intends to hold a public meeting in the vicinity of the Shearon Harris plant in the next few months to discuss the status of its ongoing technical review of the application and to provide members of the public an opportunity to express their concerns. Details on this meeting will be provided to the public when they are finalized.

A copy of your letter and this response will be placed in the Shearon Harris hearing docket and served on the parties to the proceeding.

Sincerely,


Annette L. Vietti-Cook

Enclosure: As stated

Template = SECY-040

SECY-02

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

DOCKETED
1999

ATOMIC SAFETY AND LICENSING BOARD

'99 MAY 11 AIC 24

Before Administrative Judges:

G. Paul Bollwerk, III, Chairman
Frederick J. Shon
Dr. Peter S. Lam

City
ADU

SERVED MAY 11 1999

In the Matter of

CAROLINA POWER & LIGHT COMPANY

(Shearon Harris Nuclear
Power Plant)

Docket No. 50-400-LA

ASLBP No. 99-762-02-LA

May 11, 1999

NOTICE

(Changing Location and
Starting Time for Initial
Prehearing Conference)

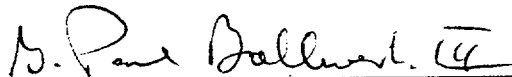
After consultation with the participants, the Licensing Board has decided to change the location of the initial prehearing conference, scheduled to begin on Thursday, May 13, 1999, to provide additional space for members of the public who wish to attend. The new location for the conference is Southern Human Resources Center, Main Meeting Room, 2505 Homestead Road, Chapel Hill, North Carolina. Further, to accommodate those who may need additional time to locate this new venue, the starting time for the May 13 session of the prehearing conference has been moved back one-half hour to 10:00 a.m.

As was noted in the Board's April 21, 1999 order regarding the prehearing conference location, this

prehearing conference is being convened so that the Board can hear arguments from counsel for petitioner Board of Commissioners of Orange County (BCOC), applicant Carolina Power and Light Co. (CP&L), and the NRC staff regarding the issues of BCOC's standing and the admissibility of its submitted contentions.

If BCOC subsequently is found to have standing and to have submitted one or more litigable contentions, the Board will issue a notice of hearing that, in accordance with 10 C.F.R. § 2.715(a), will afford members of the public an opportunity to provide written or, as appropriate, oral limited appearance statements on the issues. The Board will issue a further notice outlining the times, places, and conditions of participation in the event the board provides an opportunity for oral limited appearance statements.

FOR THE ATOMIC SAFETY
AND LICENSING BOARD*



G. Paul Bollwerk, III
ADMINISTRATIVE JUDGE

Rockville, Maryland

May 11, 1999

* Copies of this notice were sent this date by Internet e-mail transmission to counsel for (1) applicant CP&L; (2) intervenor BCOC; and (3) the staff.

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

In the Matter of

CAROLINA POWER & LIGHT COMPANY

(Shearon Harris Nuclear Power Plant)

Docket No.(s) 50-400-LA

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I hereby certify that copies of the foregoing NOTICE (CHANGING LOCATION...) have been served upon the following persons by U.S. mail, first class, except as otherwise noted and in accordance with the requirements of 10 CFR Sec. 2.712.

Office of Commission Appellate
Adjudication
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Washington, DC 20555

Administrative Judge
G. Paul Bollwerk, III, Chairman
Atomic Safety and Licensing Board Panel
Mail Stop - T-3 F23
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Washington, DC 20555

Administrative Judge
Frederick J. Shon
Atomic Safety and Licensing Board Panel
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U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
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Administrative Judge
Peter S. Lam
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Washington, DC 20555

Marian L. Zabler, Esq.
Richard G. Bachmann, Esq.
Office of the General Counsel
Mail Stop - 0-15 B18
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Washington, DC 20555

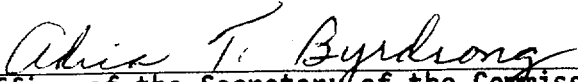
Diane Curran, Esq.
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William R. Hollaway, Esq.
Shaw, Pittman, Potts & Trowbridge
2300 N Street, NW
Washington, DC 20037

Docket No.(s)50-400-LA
NOTICE (CHANGING LOCATION...)

Dated at Rockville, Md. this
11 day of May 1999


Office of the Secretary of the Commission

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

In the Matter of

CAROLINA POWER & LIGHT COMPANY

(Shearon Harris Nuclear Power Plant)

Docket No.(s) 50-400-LA

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I hereby certify that copies of the foregoing LTR VIETTI-COOK TO DAVID PRICE have been served upon the following persons by U.S. mail, first class, except as otherwise noted and in accordance with the requirements of 10 CFR Sec. 2.712.

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2300 N Street, NW
Washington, DC 20037

Docket No.(s)50-400-LA
LTR VIETTI-COOK TO DAVID PRICE

Dated at Rockville, Md. this
24 day of June 1999

Adrian T. Byrdson
Office of the Secretary of the Commission