

4. SYSTEM AVAILABILITY

The NRC has determined that a day-for-day extension of the hearing period applies when either the central LSN site or the server hosting the licensing hearing docket is unavailable to participants during established access periods.

4.1 LSN Search and Retrieval Availability

The central LSN site is available for search and retrieval by users seven days a week, twenty four hours a day, 365 days a year. The LSN search and retrieval capability is fully available even while the system is "crawling" participant collections, and while the LSN indexes are undergoing backup. Crawling is performed by another machine (fetch server), so it does not interrupt the search server that users use to do search and retrieval. In addition, backups are performed without user interruption because the machines have three NIC cards which allow backup and user access concurrently. However, users may notice a performance degradation during the daily planned backup time between the hours of midnight and 6 a.m. Eastern Standard Time (EST).

There may be occasions when one or more participant LSN websites are down and unavailable, while at the same time the central LSN site and all other participant LSN websites are up and available. This could occur for any number of reasons that are outside the control of the LSNA or the participants. Similarly, regional communications difficulties might impact a particular participant's ability to access other participants' LSN websites through the Internet.

4.2 LSN Docket Availability

The LSN docket is established on the NRC's Agencywide Documents Access and Management System (ADAMS) external document collection server. The current scheduled access (availability hours) is daily between 6:00 a.m. EST and 9:00 p.m. EST, with the exception of Thursdays, when scheduled access is between 6:00 a.m. EST and 6:00 p.m. EST.

4.3 Crawling of Participant Systems

Participants should ensure their LSN websites are available for search and retrieval document delivery between the hours of 6:00 a.m. EST and 12:00 midnight EST.

LSN crawls will routinely be conducted between midnight and 6:00 a.m. EST unless previous arrangements have been made with the LSN Administrator. Crawls can be scheduled on an intermittent basis (e.g., weekly rather than daily) by prior coordination with the LSN Administrator.