



NRC NEWS

U.S. NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION
OFFICE OF PUBLIC AFFAIRS, REGION IV

611 Ryan Plaza Drive - Suite 400
Arlington TX 76011-8064

No. IV-02-045

CONTACT: Roger Hannah
Phone: 817-860-8128

October 31, 2002

E-mail: opa4@nrc.gov

NRC TO HOLD PUBLIC MEETINGS IN MISSISSIPPI ON THE EARLY SITE PERMIT PROCESS FOR THE GRAND GULF SITE

The Nuclear Regulatory Commission staff will hold two public meetings on November 14, 2002, in Port Gibson, Mississippi, to discuss its review process for an early site permit application from Entergy Inc. at its Grand Gulf site. Entergy has notified the NRC that it expects to file an application in June 2003 for one or more new reactors at that site.

The meetings scheduled for November 14 are designed to provide information on the NRC Early Site Permit review process, as well as outline future opportunities for public involvement in that process. Additional information on the early site permit process is on the NRC's web site at www.nrc.gov/reactors/new-licensing/license-reviews/esp.html.

The meetings will be held in Port Gibson City Hall, 1005 College Street in Port Gibson, and parking will be available in the rear of the City Hall Building. The two meetings will be similar with one in the afternoon at 2:00 and one in the evening at 7:00. In addition, the NRC staff will host an "open house" beginning one hour before each meeting. During the open house period, individual NRC staff members will be available for informal discussions about the early site permit process.

Although only very limited construction activities would be allowed by the NRC under an early site permit, the permit would allow the applicant to resolve many environmental, site safety and emergency planning issues before beginning actual construction of a new reactor facility. If the NRC approves the new reactor site, Entergy could hold or "bank" the Grand Gulf site for up to 20 years before filing an application with the NRC for approval to begin construction of a new facility.

###