

UNITED STATES NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION
NOTICE OF AVAILABILITY OF DRAFT REVIEW STANDARD FOR EARLY SITE PERMIT
APPLICATIONS

The U. S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (the Commission) has published a draft review standard for early site permit (ESP) applications. The ESP process is intended, under Title 10 of the *Code of Federal Regulations* (10 CFR) Part 52, to permit resolution of site-related issues regarding possible future construction and operation of a nuclear power plant at a site that is the subject of the ESP application. The draft review standard is primarily intended to guide the Commission staff in its review of an ESP application, with a secondary purpose of informing potential applicants for an ESP and other stakeholders of information the staff needs to perform its review. The Commission is publishing this draft version of the review standard for public comment and interim use. The Commission plans to issue a final version of the review standard by the end of 2003.

The draft review standard is available electronically for public inspection in the NRC Public Document Room located at One White Flint North, 11555 Rockville Pike (first floor), Rockville, Maryland, or from the Publicly Available Records (PARS) component of NRC's document system (ADAMS # ML023530045). ADAMS is accessible from the NRC Web site at <http://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/adams.html> (the Public Electronic Reading Room).

Any interested party may submit comments on the draft review standard for consideration by the NRC staff. To be certain of consideration, comments on the draft review standard must be received by March 31, 2003. Comments received after the due date will be considered if it is practical to do so, but the NRC staff is able to assure consideration only for comments received on or before this date. Written comments on the review standard should be sent to:

Director, New Reactor Licensing Project Office, Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation, Mailstop O-4D9A, U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission, Washington, D.C. 20555-0001. Comments may be hand-delivered to the NRC at 11555 Rockville Pike, Rockville, Maryland, between 7:45 a.m. and 4:15 p.m. on Federal workdays. Comments may be submitted electronically by the Internet to the NRC at esprs@nrc.gov. All comments received by the Commission, including those made by Federal, State, and local agencies, Indian tribes, or other interested persons, will be made available electronically at the Commission's Public Document Room in Rockville, Maryland or from the Publicly Available Records (PARS) component of NRC's document system (ADAMS).

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION, CONTACT: Mr. Michael L. Scott, Project Manager, New Reactor Licensing Project Office, U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission, Washington, D.C. 20555. Mr. Scott may be contacted at (301) 415-1421 or by e-mail at mls3@nrc.gov.

Dated at Rockville, Maryland, this 26th day of December, 2002.

FOR THE NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

/RA/

James E. Lyons, Director
New Reactor Licensing Project Office
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

Director, New Reactor Licensing Project Office, Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation, Mailstop O-4D9A, U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission, Washington, D.C. 20555-0001. Comments may be hand-delivered to the NRC at 11555 Rockville Pike, Rockville, Maryland, between 7:45 a.m. and 4:15 p.m. on Federal workdays. Comments may be submitted electronically by the Internet to the NRC at esprs@nrc.gov. All comments received by the Commission, including those made by Federal, State, and local agencies, Indian tribes, or other interested persons, will be made available electronically at the Commission's Public Document Room in Rockville, Maryland or from the Publicly Available Records (PARS) component of NRC's document system (ADAMS).

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DOCUMENT NAME: C:\MYFILES\Copies\esprsfrn.wpd

ACCESSION NO: ML023250502 *See previous concurrence

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DATE	12/26/02	11/25/02	11/25/02	12/20/02

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