



NRC NEWS

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NRC ANNOUNCES OPPORTUNITY TO PARTICIPATE IN HEARING ON NEW REACTOR APPLICATION FOR BELLEFONTE SITE

The Nuclear Regulatory Commission today announced the opportunity to participate in the hearing on a Combined License (COL) application for two new reactors at the Bellefonte site near Scottsboro, Ala.

The Tennessee Valley submitted the COL application and associated information Oct. 30, 2007, seeking a license to build and operate two AP1000 reactors at the Alabama site, where two partially constructed reactors were cancelled in 2006. The application (minus proprietary or security-related details), is available on the NRC Web site at: <http://www.nrc.gov/reactors/new-licensing/col/bellefonte.html>.

On Jan. 18, the NRC staff determined that the application contains sufficient information for the agency to formally “docket,” or file, the application and begin its technical review. Docketing the application does not preclude additional requests for information as the review proceeds; nor does it indicate whether the Commission will issue the license. The docket numbers established for this application are 52-014 and 52-015.

The NRC has published in the *Federal Register* a notice of opportunity to intervene. The deadline for petitioning to intervene is April 8, 2008, 60 days after publication of the notice. Petitions may be filed by anyone whose interest may be affected by the proposed license, who wishes to participate as a party in the proceeding, and who meets criteria set out in the NRC’s regulations. NRC staff provided background information regarding the hearing process during a September 2007 public outreach meeting held in Rainsville, Ala.

A petition to intervene must be electronically submitted in a timely manner to the NRC’s Electronic Information Exchange (EIE) system. The petition to intervene must be filed in accordance with the NRC’s E-Filing Rule that appeared in the *Federal Register* on Aug. 28, 2007. Additional guidance and instructions regarding electronic submissions to the NRC EIE system is available on the NRC web pages at <http://www.nrc.gov/site-help/e-submittals.html>.

In addition to Bellefonte, the NRC is currently reviewing COL applications for the South Texas Project site in Texas, the North Anna site in Virginia and a partial application for the Calvert Cliffs site in Maryland. The NRC is currently conducting an acceptance review for a COL application for the Lee site in South Carolina. Information about the new reactor licensing process can be found on the NRC Web site at: <http://www.nrc.gov/reactors/new-reactor-licensing.html> .

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