



NRC NEWS

U.S. NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

Office of Public Affairs

Telephone: 301/415-8200

Washington, D.C. 20555-0001

E-mail: opa@nrc.gov

Site: <http://www.nrc.gov>

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NRC MEETING WITH PUBLIC APRIL 3 ON ENVIRONMENTAL SCOPING FOR BELLEFONTE NEW REACTOR APPLICATION

Nuclear Regulatory Commission staff will hold public meetings Thursday, April 3, in Scottsboro, Ala., to discuss the agency's review of a Combined License (COL) application for two new reactors proposed for the Bellefonte site near Scottsboro, and the environmental issues the agency should consider in reviewing the application.

The NRC will meet with the public from 1:30 – 4:30 p.m. and 7 - 10 p.m. at the Goosepond Civic Center, 1165 Ed Hembree Drive in Scottsboro. The NRC will transcribe the meeting, including any follow-up answers the staff provides after the meeting, and post the information on the agency's Web site at: <http://www.nrc.gov/reactors/new-licensing/col/bellefonte.html>.

NRC staff will be available for informal discussions with members of the public during "open house" sessions from 12:30 – 1:30 p.m. and 6 - 7 p.m. No formal comments on the environmental review will be accepted during these open houses.

The Tennessee Valley Authority submitted the application Oct. 30, 2007, to build and operate two AP1000 reactors at the Alabama site. TVA had received construction permits for two reactors at Bellefonte in the 1970s, but cancelled two partially constructed reactors in 2006.

The AP1000 is a Westinghouse-designed 1,100 MWe pressurized-water reactor the NRC certified in 2006. Westinghouse submitted an application in May 2007 to amend the certified design in order to: 1) revise the reactor's steam generators, 2) resolve several issues that would otherwise be left to COL applicants, and 3) voluntarily address the NRC's proposed rule on aircraft impact assessments. The amendment application (minus proprietary or security-related details), will be available on the NRC Web site at: <http://www.nrc.gov/reactors/new-licensing/design-cert/amended-ap1000.html>.

Those wishing to register in advance to present their comments at the meeting should contact Mallecia Hood by telephone at 800-368-5642 x0673, or via e-mail at Bellefonte.COLEIS@nrc.gov by March 27. Those with special needs for attending or presenting

information at the meetings should notify the staff by March 18. Those wishing to speak may also register at each meeting no later than 1:15 p.m. and 6:45 p.m., respectively. Individual comments could be limited by the time available and the number of people wishing to speak.

NRC staff will also consider written comments on the scoping process. Comments should be submitted no later than April 25, either by mail to the Chief, Rules and Directives Branch, Division of Administrative Services, Office of Administration, Mailstop T-6D59, U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission, Washington, DC 20555-0001, via e-mail at Bellefonte.COLEIS@nrc.gov, or hand-delivered to the NRC at 11545 Rockville Pike, Rockville, Md., between 7:30 a.m. and 4:15 p.m. on federal workdays.

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