



# NRC NEWS

U.S. NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

Office of Public Affairs

Telephone: 301/415-8200

Washington, D.C. 20555-0001

E-mail: [opa.resource@nrc.gov](mailto:opa.resource@nrc.gov)

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

---

No. 09-081

May 5, 2009

## **NRC TO HOLD PUBLIC MEETINGS MAY 19 IN WILMINGTON, N.C., ON ENVIRONMENTAL REVIEW FOR PROPOSED ENRICHMENT PLANT**

The Nuclear Regulatory Commission will hold two public meetings May 19 in Wilmington, N.C., to seek comments about specific issues that should be addressed in its environmental review of a proposed uranium enrichment facility.

The meetings will be held at the Warwick Center, Ballroom 1, at the University of North Carolina at Wilmington, from 1 to 4 p.m., and 7 to 10 p.m. NRC staff members will be available for an hour prior to each meeting to speak informally to members of the public.

General Electric-Hitachi Global Laser Enrichment, LLC, (GLE) submitted the environmental report Jan. 30, as one part of an application for a 40-year license to construct and operate a laser-based uranium enrichment facility at the existing General Electric/Global Nuclear Fuels-Americas site near Wilmington. GLE has indicated it intends to file the rest of its application – pertaining to safety aspects of the facility – by the end of June.

The proposed facility would enrich uranium for use in the production of fuel for commercial nuclear power reactors.

In March, the NRC staff determined that the environmental report was sufficiently complete to allow the agency to begin its formal environmental review. A notice of intent to prepare an environmental impact statement was published April 9 in the *Federal Register*.

At the May 19 meetings, NRC staff will explain the licensing review process and provide ample opportunity for the public to speak about what specific environmental issues should be addressed in the report. Members of the public wishing to make statements are encouraged to pre-register by May 8 by contacting Antoinette Walker-Smith at (800) 368-5642, ext. 6390. Interested persons may also register to speak at the meeting, and written comments will also be accepted.

###

NOTE: Anyone wishing to take photos or use a camera to record any portion of a NRC meeting should contact the Office of Public Affairs beforehand.

News releases are available through a free *listserv* subscription at the following Web address: <http://www.nrc.gov/public-involve/listserver.html>. The NRC homepage at [www.nrc.gov](http://www.nrc.gov) also offers a SUBSCRIBE link. E-mail notifications are sent to subscribers when news releases are posted to NRC's Web site.