



NRC NEWS

U.S. NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

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LICENSING BOARD TO HEAR ORAL ARGUMENT JUNE 23-24 IN BAY CITY, TEXAS, ON SOUTH TEXAS PROJECT NEW NUCLEAR REACTOR APPLICATION

An Atomic Safety and Licensing Board (ASLB) panel will hear oral argument on a request for a hearing in the South Texas Project Combined License (COL) proceeding on June 23 and 24 in Bay City, Texas. The ASLB is the NRC's quasi-judicial arm dealing with licensing matters.

Oral arguments will begin at 9 a.m. CDT on Tuesday, June 23, in Room 100 of the Main Hall in the Bay City Civic Center, 201 7th St. in Bay City. If necessary, the session will continue the next morning. The session is open for public observation, but participation will be limited to the petitioners, the applicant -- South Texas Nuclear Operating Company (STPNOC) -- and NRC staff involved in the proceeding. Early arrival is suggested to allow for security screening for all members of the public interested in attending. NRC policy prohibits signs, banners, posters or displays in the hearing room.

STPNOC submitted a COL application Sept. 20, 2007, seeking permission to construct and operate two new nuclear reactors at the South Texas Project site near Bay City. The NRC suspended most of its review in January 2008 in response to a STPNOC request. STPNOC provided additional information in August 2008 and the agency restarted its full review in February. A request to intervene in the proceeding was submitted by several individuals and public interest groups. The ASLB panel will hear oral argument on the admissibility of the issues raised in this filing and will determine, at a later date, whether a hearing should be granted.

Documents related to the South Texas Project COL application are available on the NRC Web site at: <http://www.nrc.gov/reactors/new-reactors/col/south-texas-project.html>. Documents pertaining to the ASLB proceeding are available in the agency's electronic document library at: <http://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/adams/web-based.html>.

More information about the ASLB can be found at: <http://www.nrc.gov/about-nrc/organization/aslbpfundesc.html>.

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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.

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