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NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

Title: Kewaunee Power Station License Renewal
Draft EIS Public Hearing
Evening Session

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Pages 1-16

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UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION
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PUBLIC MEETING ON
ENVIRONMENTAL ISSUES PERTAINING TO
KEWAUNEE POWER STATION LICENSE RENEWAL

+ + + + +

WEDNESDAY

MARCH 24, 2010

7:00 p.m.

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CITY OF CARLTON TOWN HALL
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KEWAUNEE, WISCONSIN

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PRESENT:

NRC STAFF:

Drew Stuyvenberg - Project Manager, Facilitator

Daniel Doyle - Project Manager, Division of

License Renewal

Peter Tam - Project Manager, Division of Operating

Reactor Licensing

Kevin Barclay - Resident Inspector

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P R O C E E D I N G S

(7:00 P.M.)

1
2
3 MR. STUYVENBERG: All right. Well, I see
4 a couple of familiar faces in the audience. I'd like
5 to take this opportunity to welcome you all to the
6 evening session of the Nuclear Regulatory Commission's
7 Public Meeting to receive comments on the Draft
8 Environmental Impact Statement for the proposed
9 License Renewal of Kewaunee Power Station.

10 My name is Drew Stuyvenberg. And I'm a
11 Project Manager in the Division of License Renewal at
12 the Nuclear Regulatory Commission. I'll be
13 facilitating this evening's meeting and helping it to
14 run smoothly.

15 Joining me today are several others
16 members of the NRC Staff, and I'll introduce them in
17 just a few minutes. But first I'd like to thank you
18 all for joining us.

19 We're here to present the preliminary
20 results of NRC's Environmental Impact Statement on the
21 proposed License Renewal of Kewaunee Power Station's
22 Operating License which would allow the power plant to
23 operate for 20 years past its existing Operating
24 License.

25 Dan Doyle is here on my left. Dan is

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1 another Project Manager in the NRC's Division of
2 License Renewal. He's actually managing the
3 Environmental Review at this point for the Kewaunee
4 Power Station. He'll be here to present the
5 preliminary results of the NRC's Environmental Review.

6
7 Then we'll have a few minutes for any
8 clarifying questions that there may be about Dan's
9 presentation or our review processes. And then we'll
10 receive any comments that there are about the NRC's
11 Staff Environmental Review.

12 During the comment period, NRC Staff are
13 going to be in a listening mode. And our court
14 reporter for the evening, Greg Duncan over there in
15 the blue sweater, will be transcribing any comments
16 for edition or review by NRC Staff at headquarters and
17 then incorporation into our Final Environmental Impact
18 Statement.

19 If anyone wishes to speak, please fill out
20 a yellow Comment Card. They're on the back table. It
21 will be easy just to keep of any speakers that there
22 are. If you supply your address, we'll send you a
23 copy and add you to the mailing list for the project.

24 If you didn't want to speak and want to be
25 on the mailing list and are not already, there are

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1 some blue cards back there. You fill those out and
2 we'll put you on the mailing list as well.

3 Also, I want to let you know that today's
4 meetings are not the only opportunities to submit
5 comments. We will accept them through April 23rd by
6 mail and email, and we'll considered mailed or e-
7 mailed comments in the same way that we would consider
8 any spoken comments that we receive tonight.

9 I'm now going to introduce the other
10 members of the NRC Staff who are here today. First,
11 I'll introduce Kevin Barclay.

12 He's one of the Resident Inspectors at the
13 plant. As most of you in the room know, Resident
14 Inspectors are our eyes and ears. They're at the
15 plant on a daily basis.

16 Also here today is Peter Tam. Peter is a
17 Project Manager for Kewaunee Power Station in the
18 Division of Operating Reactor Licensing.

19 So Peter specifically handles issues
20 related to Kewaunee and its ongoing licensing
21 processes.

22 Before we get started, I'll address just a
23 few basic ground rules. First, because we're
24 transcribing, please speak only into a microphone.
25 So, if there is anyone with questions during the

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1 question period, I'll bring the microphone to you, and
2 you can speak into the microphone at that time.

3 During the comment period, you can come
4 directly to the podium and, and, and speak at the
5 podium. These rules also go for any of the NRC Staff.

6 If we have anybody who's going to clarify anything,
7 I'll bring you a microphone.

8 Again, please state your name clearly for
9 the transcript, and please speak only one at a time.

10 As one last note, restrooms are here on my
11 left down the hallway, and exits are at the back of
12 the room, and also down the hallway past the
13 restrooms.

14 With that, I'll turn the meeting over to
15 Dan Doyle. Thank you.

16 MR. DOYLE: Thank you, Drew. Good
17 evening. I'm going to present now the preliminary
18 results of the NRC's Review of site-specific issues
19 related to the proposed License Renewal of Kewaunee
20 Power Station. I'm going to be as brief as I can be.

21 I hope the information we will provide
22 will help you understand the process we're going
23 through and what we've done thus far, and the role you
24 can play in helping us make sure that the Final
25 Environmental Impact Statement is accurate and

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1 complete.

2 I'll start off with a brief project
3 background, and then move on to presenting the
4 preliminary findings of the Environmental Review which
5 assesses the impact associated with renewing the
6 Operating License for an additional 20 years.

7 Then I will provide some information about
8 the schedule for the remainder of our Review, and how
9 you can submit comments in the future.

10 And finally, the most important part of
11 the meeting is receiving any comments that you may
12 have.

13 The NRC was established to regulate
14 civilian uses of nuclear materials including
15 applications that produce electric power.

16 The NRC conducts License Renewal Reviews
17 for plants whose owners wish to operate them beyond
18 their initial license period.

19 The NRC License Renewal Reviews address
20 safety issues related to managing the effects of aging
21 and environmental issues related to an additional 20
22 years of operation as well as any other potential
23 major refurbishment activities the plant owner or
24 operator may undertake during or in preparation for an
25 additional 20 years of operation.

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1 In all aspects of the NRC's regulation,
2 the NRC's mission is threefold: to ensure adequate
3 protection of public health and safety; to promote the
4 common defense and security; and to protect the
5 environment.

6 We're here today to discuss the potential
7 site-specific impacts of License Renewal for Kewaunee
8 Power Station. The site-specific findings are
9 contained in the Draft Supplemental Environmental
10 Impact Statement the NRC Staff published on January
11 29th of this year.

12 There are three reference copies in the
13 back of the room. And there's a stack of CD's that
14 have electronic copies of that document as well as
15 other public information and reference materials that
16 the NRC uses in preparing those documents. So, please
17 feel free to take any of the materials, or take a look
18 at the reference copies of the Draft SEIS in the back
19 of the room.

20 The document contains analyses of all
21 applicable site-specific issues as well as a review of
22 issues common to many or all nuclear power plants.

23 Issues for which the Environmental Impacts
24 are the same across some or all nuclear power plant
25 sites are discussed in the Generic Environmental

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1 Impact Statement.

2 The NRC Staff reviewed these issues to
3 determine whether the conclusions in the Generic
4 Environmental Impact Statement are valid for Kewaunee
5 Power Station.

6 The NRC Staff also reviews the
7 environmental impacts of potential alternatives to
8 License Renewal, in other words, other ways to replace
9 Kewaunee's electrical generation capacity if it were
10 to be shut down, to determine whether the impacts
11 expected from License Renewal are unreasonable.

12 Before getting into the preliminary
13 environmental findings, I wanted to acknowledge that
14 most of the comments during the scoping period were
15 related to taxes and waste storage at Kewaunee.

16 All the comments that were received at the
17 two public meetings, electronically to the email
18 address, and via mail, are included in Appendix A of
19 the document of the Draft Environmental Impact
20 Statement.

21 And in Chapter 2, there is a discussion of
22 taxes, contributions by utility, and their allocation.

23 The Environmental Impact Statement is
24 really a disclosure tool and is including these
25 comments, but because they do not directly relate to

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1 the environmental impacts of the plant in this Review,
2 they are not reviewed further.

3 This slide lists the environmental issues
4 the NRC Staff reviewed for the continued operation of
5 Kewaunee Power Station during the proposed License
6 Renewal period.

7 There are three possible impacts: small,
8 moderate, or large. And just to briefly explain what
9 those impacts mean, a small impact would be an impact
10 where the environmental effects are not detectable or
11 are so minor that they would neither destabilize nor
12 noticeably alter any important attribute of that
13 resource.

14 A moderate impact would be where the
15 environmental effects are sufficient to alter
16 noticeably but not to destabilize important attributes
17 of the resource.

18 And a large impact would be where the
19 effects are clearly noticeable and are sufficient to
20 destabilize important attributes of the resource.

21 The Staff's preliminary conclusion in all
22 site-specific impacts related to License Renewal are
23 small.

24 And just to briefly discuss each of these
25 topics, if anyone has further questions about these we

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1 can receive comments during the comment period, talk
2 about them later, or I could show you in the Draft
3 document where they're discussed in detail.

4 Air quality. No major facility
5 construction or refurbishments are planned to occur
6 during the License Renewal period. Issues are
7 addressed generically and are determined to be small.

8 Ground water. Kewaunee withdraws less
9 than 100 gallons per minute of ground water. And its
10 once through a cooling system does not utilize cooling
11 towers or cooling ponds. And there are no Category I,
12 there are no generic or site-specific issues.

13 For service water, for example, altered
14 current patterns, discharge of chlorine biocides or
15 sanitary wastes, the issues are addressed generically
16 and which were determined to be small.

17 For aquatic resources, such as
18 entrainment, for impact such as entrainment where
19 aquatic organisms are drawn into the cooling system or
20 impingement where organisms are pinned against intake
21 structure or screens, and also heat shock where
22 organisms are exposed to a sudden elevation of water
23 temperature are analyzed in Section 4.5 of the DSEIS
24 and are determined to be small.

25 Terrestrial resources are addressed

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1 generically and were found to be small.

2 For human health, generic issues, such as
3 noise and radiation exposure, were found to be small.

4 And EMF, or Electro Magnetic Frequency,
5 acute and chronic effects were reviewed and were found
6 to be small.

7 Finally, socioeconomics are addressed in
8 Section 4.9. For example, housing impacts, public
9 services, offsite land use, transportation, historic
10 and archeological resources were determined to be
11 small.

12 And waste management is addressed in
13 Chapter 6. It was also determined to be small.

14 When reviewing the potential impacts of
15 License Renewal on the environment, NRC Staff also
16 look at the effects in the environment from other
17 past, present, and reasonably foreseeable future human
18 actions.

19 The NRC Staff preliminarily concluded that
20 there are moderate Cumulative Impacts on aquatic
21 resources due to factors like water quality issues and
22 native aquatic community destabilization due to
23 invasive species introductions.

24 In other areas, the NRC Staff considered
25 the preliminary conclusions are that Cumulative

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1 Impacts are small.

2 A major step in determining whether
3 License Renewal is reasonable or not is comparing the
4 likely impacts of License Renewal with the
5 alternatives, including other methods of power
6 generation and not renewing the Kewaunee Power Station
7 Operating License.

8 In the Draft Supplement, the NRC Staff
9 considered natural gas combined cycle generation,
10 super critical coal-fired generation, and, as a part
11 of a combinational alternative,
12 conservation/efficiency, wood-fired generation, and
13 wind power.

14 Finally, the NRC Staff considered what
15 would happen if no action is taken and Kewaunee Power
16 Station shuts down at the end of its license, the end
17 of its current license, without a specific replacement
18 alternative.

19 The Staff found that impacts from energy
20 alternatives would vary widely based on the
21 characteristics of the alternatives. And, in most
22 cases, construction of new facilities created
23 significant impacts.

24 Based on our review of likely
25 environmental impacts, from License Renewal as well as

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1 potential environmental impacts of alternatives to
2 License Renewal, the Staff's preliminary
3 recommendation in the DSEIS is that the environmental
4 impacts of License Renewal for Kewaunee Power Station
5 are not so great that License Renewal would be
6 unreasonable, which is essentially saying that License
7 Renewal would be acceptable from an environmental
8 standpoint.

9 The Environmental Review, however, is not
10 yet completed. Your comments today and all written
11 comments received by the end of the comment period on
12 April 23rd will be considered by NRC Staff as we
13 develop the Final Supplemental Environmental Impact
14 Statement which we currently plan to issue this
15 summer.

16 The final document will contain the
17 Staff's final recommendation on the acceptability of
18 License Renewal based on the work we've already
19 performed and the input we receive in the form of
20 comments during the comment period. Your comments can
21 help to forge the Staff's finding in the final
22 document.

23 I am the primary contact for the
24 Environmental Review. My contact is here and in the
25 handouts. And John Daily is the primary contact for

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1 the Safety Review.

2 As I said earlier, there are several hard
3 copies of the document that we're talking about in the
4 back of the room for reference. And there are
5 electronic copies on CD. Please feel free to take
6 those.

7 In addition, the Kewaunee Public Library
8 has agreed to make hard copies available to the public
9 for inspection. You can also find electronic copies
10 on the website which is given in this slide and in
11 your handout.

12 NRC Staff will address written comments in
13 the same way we address spoken comments received
14 today. To submit written comments, you may send them
15 to NRC via email or via conventional mail. If you
16 have written comments this evening, you may give them
17 to me or any other NRC Staff member.

18 That concludes my remarks. And I now turn
19 the meeting back over to Drew.

20 MR. STUYVENBERG: Thank you, Dan. I just
21 want to check to see if anybody had any questions on
22 Dan's presentation or any part of our review process
23 this evening.

24 Okay. Seeing none, I wanted to see if we
25 had any members of the public who are interested in

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1 offering any comments. I don't have any yellow cards
2 at this point. Is there anybody present who would
3 like to offer any comments into the record at this
4 point?

5 All right. In that case, seeing none,
6 this concludes today's meeting.

7 We'll have some NRC Staff, we'll stick
8 around in case anybody has any more questions. If
9 there is anything we can get or find any information,
10 thank you for coming out this evening. And we'll have
11 a Final Environmental Impact Statement later on this
12 year. Thank you.

13 (Whereupon, the meeting adjourned at 7:14
14 p.m.)

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