



NRC NEWS

U.S. NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

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NRC SEEKS PUBLIC INPUT ON ENVIRONMENTAL SCOPING FOR VICTORIA COUNTY EARLY SITE PERMIT; MEETINGS SCHEDULED DEC. 2

Nuclear Regulatory Commission staff will conduct public meetings in Victoria, Texas, on Thursday, Dec. 2, to discuss the agency's review of an Early Site Permit (ESP) application from Exelon Nuclear Texas Holdings (Exelon) for the Victoria County site near Victoria, and the environmental issues the agency should consider in reviewing the application.

The NRC will hold the meetings in the Victoria Community Center Dome located at 2905 E. North St. in Victoria, from 1 – 4 p.m. and 7 – 10 p.m. NRC staff presentations will describe the ESP process, focusing on the environmental review, followed by a public comment period. The NRC will host open houses from noon to 1 p.m. and 6 – 7 p.m. so members of the public have the opportunity to talk informally with agency staff.

Exelon submitted its ESP application, including an environmental report, on March 25. The environmental report is available via the NRC's electronic document database, ADAMS, by entering accession number ML101120186 in the ADAMS search engine at: <http://adamspublic.nrc.gov/fnopenclient/>. In addition, the Victoria Public Library at 302 North Main St. in Victoria has agreed to maintain a copy of the environmental report for public inspection.

Those wishing to register in advance to present their comments at the meetings, or with special needs for attending or presenting information at the meetings, should contact Tomeka Terry or Alicia Williamson, by telephone at 800-368-5642 x1488 and x1878, respectively, or via e-mail at Victoria.ESPEIS@nrc.gov by Nov. 29. Those wishing to speak may also register at each meeting no later than 12:45 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 environmental issues until Jan. 3, 2011, following the publication of a notice in the *Federal Register* (<http://edocket.access.gpo.gov/2010/pdf/2010-27631.pdf>). Please include Docket ID **NRC-2010-0165** with your comment, via the <http://www.regulations.gov> website, by mail to the Chief, Rules Announcements and Directives Branch, Division of Administrative Services, Office of Administration, Mailstop TWB-05-B01M, U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission, Washington, D.C. 20555-0001, via e-mail at Victoria.ESPEIS@nrc.gov, or via fax to 301-492-3446.

In the near future the NRC will publish in the *Federal Register* a notice of opportunity to intervene in the required adjudicatory hearing. Petitions to intervene in a hearing must be filed within 60 days of the notice, by anyone whose interest may be affected by the proposed permit and who wishes to participate as a party in the proceeding. More information on the hearing process is available on the NRC website at: <http://www.nrc.gov/about-nrc/regulatory/adjudicatory/hearing.html>.

An NRC decision to issue an ESP means the site is suitable for a nuclear power facility, contingent on the approval of an additional application for a construction permit or combined license. An ESP is valid for 10 to 20 years and can potentially be renewed for an additional 10 to 20 years. More information on the NRC's new reactor licensing process is available on the agency's website at: <http://www.nrc.gov/reactors/new-reactors.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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