

November 10, 2010

MEMORANDUM TO: A. Ryan Whited, Chief
Environmental Projects Branch 2
Division of Site and Environmental Reviews
Office of the New Reactors

FROM: Tomeka L. Terry, Project Manager */RA/*
Environmental Projects Branch 2
Division of Site and Environmental Reviews
Office of the New Reactors

SUBJECT: NOTICE OF PUBLIC MEETING TO DISCUSS ENVIRONMENTAL
REVIEW PROCESS AND RECEIVE SCOPING COMMENTS ON THE
VICTORIA COUNTY STATION EARLY SITE PERMIT APPLICATION

DATE & TIME: Thursday, December 2, 2010
First Session: 1:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m.
Second Session: 7:00 p.m. – 10:00 p.m.

LOCATION: Victoria Community Center Dome
2905 E. North Street
Victoria, TX 77901

CATEGORY 3* This is a Category 3 meeting. The public is invited to participate in this meeting by providing comments and asking questions throughout the meeting.

PURPOSE: To conduct a transcribed public meeting to allow members of the public an opportunity to provide their comments on what environmental issues the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) should consider during its review of the early site permit (ESP) application for the Victoria County Station site. See the enclosed agenda and *Federal Register* Notice (75 FR67406).

CONTACTS: Tomeka Terry, NRO/DSER Alicia Williamson, NRO/DSER
301-415-1488 301-415-1878

*Commission's Policy Statement on "Enhancing Public Participation in NRC Meetings,"
(67 *Federal Register* 36920) May 28, 2002.

R. Whited

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PURPOSE (cont.): Each meeting will be preceded by a 1-hour informal open house from 12:00 p.m. to 1:00 p.m. for the first session and 6:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. for the second session. The open house will provide members of the public with an opportunity to speak informally, "one-on-one" with NRC staff.

PARTICIPANTS: NRC participants include staff from the Office of New Reactors, Division of Site and Environmental Reviews (NRO/DSER).

NRC (NRO/DSER)

F. Cameron, Facilitator

S. Flanders

R. Whited

T. Terry

Members of the public who register to speak

Docket No. 52-042

Enclosures:
As stated

cc: See next page

R.Whited

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As stated

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Public

TTerry, NRO	AWilliamson, NRO	ARedden, NRO
RWhited, NRO	JJessie, NRO	MTonnacci, NRO
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AWilson, OGC	SBurnell, OPA	BMaier, Rgn 4
RidsOgcMailCenter	RidsOpaMailCenter	RidsRgn4MailCenter
RidsOcaMailCenter	RidsNroDserRenv	RidsNroDserRap3
HJayson Jayson.M.Hudson@usace.army.mil		HAvci, ANL avci@anl.gov
KWescott, ANL wescott@anl.gov		

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NRC-002

OFFICE	DSER:NRO:PM	DSER:NRO:LA	DSER:NRO:BC
NAME	TTerry	ARedden	RWhited
DATE	11/ 10/2010	11/09/2010	11/10/2010

OFFICIAL RECORD COPY

**AGENDA FOR PUBLIC MEETING TO DISCUSS
ENVIRONMENTAL SCOPING PROCESS FOR THE
VICTORIA COUNTY STATION SITE
EARLY SITE PERMIT APPLICATION REVIEW**

Thursday, December 2, 2010

Two Meeting Sessions: 1:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m.
7:00 p.m. to 10:00 p.m.*

- I. Welcome and purpose of meeting - 5 minutes (C. Cameron, R. Whited)
- II. Overview of early site permit environmental review process - 20 minutes (T. Terry)
- III. Public comments - 2 ½ hours (C. Cameron)
- IV. Closing/availability of transcripts, etc. - 5 minutes (C. Cameron, S. Flanders)

*Note - The NRC staff will host informal discussions one hour prior to the meeting. No comments on the scope of the environmental review will be accepted during the informal discussions. To be considered, comments must be provided either at the transcribed public meeting (see agenda, above) or in writing, as described in the *Federal Register* notice.

[Federal Register: November 2, 2010 (Volume 75, Number 211)]
[Notices]
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NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

[Docket No. 52-042; NRC-2010-0165]

Exelon Nuclear Texas Holdings, LLC; Victoria County Station Early
Site Permit Application; Notice of Intent To Prepare an Environmental
Impact Statement and Conduct Scoping Process

Exelon Nuclear Texas Holdings, LLC (Exelon) has submitted an application for an early site permit (ESP) for Victoria County Station (VCS) site, located approximately 13.3 miles south of the city of Victoria, Texas. The application for the ESP was submitted by Exelon by letter dated March 25, 2010, pursuant to title 10 of the Code of Federal Regulations (10 CFR), parts 51 and 52.

A notice of receipt and availability of the application, including the environmental report (ER), was published in the Federal Register on Wednesday, April 28, 2010 (75 FR 22434). A notice of acceptance for docketing of the application for the ESP was published in the Federal Register on June 14, 2010 (75 FR 33653). A notice of hearing and opportunity to petition for leave to intervene in the proceeding of the application will be published at a later date.

The purposes of this notice are: (1) To inform the public that the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) staff will be preparing an environmental impact statement (EIS) as part of the review of the application for the ESP and (2) to provide the public with an opportunity to participate in the environmental scoping process as defined in 10 CFR 51.29. The NRC has invited the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Galveston District, to participate in the preparation of the EIS as a cooperating agency.

In addition, as outlined in 36 CFR 800.8(c), ``Coordination with the National Environmental Policy Act,' ' the NRC staff plans to coordinate compliance with Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA) with steps taken to meet the requirements of the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969, as amended (NEPA). Pursuant to 36 CFR 800.8(c), the NRC staff intends to use the process and documentation for the preparation of the EIS on the proposed action to comply with Section 106 of the NHPA in lieu of the procedures set forth in 36 CFR 800.3 through 800.6.

In accordance with 10 CFR 51.45 and 51.50, Exelon submitted the ER as part of the ESP application. The ER was prepared pursuant to 10 CFR Parts 51 and 52 and is available for public inspection at the NRC Public Document Room (PDR) located at One White Flint North, 11555 Rockville Pike (first floor), Rockville, Maryland 20852 or from the Publicly Available Records (PAR) component of NRC's Agency-wide Documents Access and Management System (ADAMS). ADAMS is accessible at <http://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/adams.html>, which provides access through the NRC's Electronic Reading Room (ERR) link. The accession number in

Enclosure 2

ADAMS for the environmental report is ML101120186. Persons who do not have access to ADAMS or who encounter problems in accessing the documents located in ADAMS should contact the NRC's PDR Reference staff at 1-800-397-4209/301-415-4737 or via e-mail to pdr.resource@nrc.gov. The application may also be viewed on the Internet at <http://www.nrc.gov/reactors/new-reactors/esp/victoria.html>. In addition, the Victoria Public Library located at 302 North Main Street in Victoria, Texas, has agreed to maintain a copy of the ER and make it available for public inspection.

The following key reference documents related to the application and the NRC staff's review processes are available through the NRC's Web site at <http://www.nrc.gov>:

- a. 10 CFR Part 51, Environmental Protection Regulations for Domestic Licensing and Related Regulatory Function;
- b. 10 CFR Part 52, Licenses, Certifications, and Approvals for Nuclear Power Plants;
- c. 10 CFR Part 100, Reactor Site Criteria;
- d. NUREG-1555, Standard Review Plans for Environmental Reviews for Nuclear Power Plants;
- e. NUREG/BR-0298, Brochure on Nuclear Power Plant Licensing Process;
- f. Regulatory Guide 4.2, Preparation of Environmental Reports for Nuclear Power Stations;
- g. Regulatory Guide 4.7, General Site Suitability Criteria for Nuclear Power Stations;
- h. Fact Sheet on Nuclear Power Plant Licensing Process;
- i. Regulatory Guide 1.206, Combined License Applications for Nuclear Power Plants; and
- j. Nuclear Regulatory Commission Policy Statement on the Treatment of Environmental Justice Matters in NRC Regulatory and Licensing Actions.

The regulations, NUREG-series documents, regulatory guides, and the fact sheet can be found under Document Collections in the Electronic Reading Room on the NRC webpage. The environmental justice policy statement can be found in the Federal Register, 69 FR 52040, August 24, 2004.

This notice advises the public that the NRC intends to gather the information necessary to prepare an EIS as part of the review of the application for the ESP at the VCS site. Possible alternatives to the proposed action (issuance of the ESP) include no action and alternate sites. As set forth in 10 CFR 51.20(b)(1), issuance of an ESP under 10 CFR part 52 is an action that requires an EIS. This notice is being published in accordance with NEPA and the NRC's regulations in 10 CFR part 51.

The NRC will first conduct a scoping process for the EIS and, as soon as practicable thereafter, will prepare a draft EIS for public comment. Participation in this scoping process by members of the public and local, State, Tribal, and Federal Government agencies is encouraged. The scoping process for the draft EIS will be used to accomplish the following:

- a. Define the proposed action that is to be the subject of the EIS;
- b. Determine the scope of the EIS and identify the significant issues to be analyzed in depth;
- c. Identify and eliminate from detailed study those issues that are peripheral or that are not significant;

- d. Identify any environmental assessments and other EISs that are being or will be prepared that are related to but are not part of the scope of the EIS being considered;
- e. Identify other environmental review and consultation requirements related to the proposed action;
- f. Identify parties consulting with the NRC under the NHPA, as set forth in 36 CFR 800.8(c)(1)(i);
- g. Indicate the relationship between the timing of the preparation of the environmental analyses and the Commission's tentative planning and decision-making schedule;
- h. Identify any cooperating agencies and, as appropriate, allocate assignments for preparation and schedules for completing the EIS to the NRC and any cooperating agencies; and
- i. Describe how the EIS will be prepared, including any contractor assistance to be used. The NRC invites the following persons or entities to participate in the scoping process:
 - a. The applicant, Exelon;
 - b. Any Federal agency that has jurisdiction by law or special expertise with respect to any environmental impact involved or that is authorized to develop and enforce relevant environmental standards;
 - c. Affected State and local government agencies, including those authorized to develop and enforce relevant environmental standards;
 - d. Any affected Native American;
 - e. Any person who requests or has requested an opportunity to participate in the scoping process; and
 - f. Any person who intends to petition for leave to intervene in the proceeding, or who has submitted such a petition, or who is admitted as a party.

In accordance with 10 CFR 51.26, the scoping process for an EIS may include a public scoping meeting to help identify significant issues related to a proposed activity and to determine the scope of issues to be addressed in an EIS. The NRC staff will hold two public scoping meetings for the EIS regarding the ESP application. Both scoping meetings will be held at the Victoria Community Center Dome located at 2905 E. North Street, Victoria, Texas 77901, on Thursday, December 2, 2010. The first meeting will convene at 1 p.m. and will continue until approximately 4 p.m., and the second meeting will convene at 7 p.m. and will continue until approximately 10 p.m. Both meetings will be transcribed and will include the following: (1) An overview by the NRC staff of the NEPA environmental review process, the proposed scope of the EIS, and the proposed review schedule; and (2) the opportunity for interested government agencies, organizations, and individuals to submit comments or suggestions on the environmental issues or the proposed scope of the EIS. Additionally, the NRC staff will host informal discussions for one hour prior to the start of each public meeting. No formal comments on the proposed scope of the EIS will be accepted during the informal discussions. To be considered, comments must be provided either at the transcribed public meeting or in writing, as discussed below. Persons may register to attend or present oral comments on the scope of the EIS by contacting Ms. Tomeka L. Terry or Ms. Alicia Williamson by telephone at 1-800-368-5642, extension 1488 or 1878, respectively. In addition, persons can register via e-mail to the NRC at Victoria.ESPEIS@nrc.gov no later than November 29, 2010.

Members of the public may also register to speak at the meetings prior to the start of each session. Individual oral comments may be limited by the time available, depending on the number of persons who

register. Members of the public who have not registered may also have an opportunity to speak, if time permits. Public comments will be considered in the scoping process for the EIS. If special equipment or accommodations are needed to attend or present information at either public meeting, such requests should be brought to Ms. Terry's or Ms. Williamson's attention no later than November 29, 2010, so that the NRC staff can make arrangements to accommodate the request.

Members of the public may send written comments on the scope of the VCS ESP environmental review 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, DC 20555-0001, and should cite the publication date and page number of this Federal Register notice. To ensure that comments will be considered in the scoping process, written comments must be postmarked by January 3, 2011. Electronic comments may be sent by e-mail to the NRC at Victoria.ESPEIS@nrc.gov. Electronic submissions must be sent no later than January 3, 2011. Comments will be made available electronically and will be accessible through the NRC's Electronic Reading Room link at <http://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/adams.html>. The NRC staff may, at its discretion, consider comments received after the end of the comment period.

Participation in the scoping process for the EIS does not entitle participants to become parties to the proceeding to which the EIS relates. A notice of hearing and opportunity to petition for leave to intervene in the proceeding on the application for the ESP will be published in a future Federal Register notice.

At the conclusion of the scoping process, the NRC staff will prepare a concise summary of the determinations and conclusions reached on the scope of the environmental review including the significant issues identified, and will send this summary to each participant in the scoping process for whom the staff has an address. The staff will then prepare and issue for comment the draft EIS, which will be the subject of a separate Federal Register notice and a separate public meeting. Copies of the draft EIS will be available for public inspection at the PDR through the above-mentioned address and one copy per request will be provided free of charge. After receipt and consideration of comments on the draft EIS, the NRC will prepare a final EIS, which will also be available to the public.

Information about the proposed action, the EIS, and the scoping process may be obtained from Ms. Tomeka L. Terry or Ms. Alicia Williamson at U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission, Mailstop T-7E30, Washington, DC 20555-0001, by phone at 1-800-368-5642, extension 1488 or 1878, respectively, or via e-mail at Tomeka.Terry@nrc.gov or Alicia.Williamson@nrc.gov.

Dated at Rockville, Maryland, this 26th day of October 2010.

For The Nuclear Regulatory Commission.
Scott C. Flanders,
Director, Division of Site and Environmental Reviews, Office of New Reactors.
[FR Doc. 2010-27631 Filed 11-1-10; 8:45 am]
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Victoria Mailing List
cc:

Ms. Sharon H. Barnard
Office Manager
Victoria Economic Development
Corporation
700 N Main Ste 104
Victoria, TX 77901

Mr. Moni Belton
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
17629 El Camino Real, Ste. 211
Houston, TX 77058-3051

Ms. Kathy Boydston, Leader
Texas Parks and Wildlife Department
Wildlife Habitat Assessment Program
4200 Smith School Rd.
Austin, TX 78744

Ms. Eliza Brown
Sustainable Energy & Economic
Development (SEED) Coalition
1303 San Antonio #100
Austin, TX 78701

Ms. Mary Carter
Whooping Crane Advocate
Blackburn Carter, PC
4709 Austin
Houston, TX 77004

Mr. Ruben Cortez
Texas Department of State Health Services
Inspection Unit MC 1986
P.O. Box 149347
Austin, TX 78714-9347

Mr. Mark Fisher, Manager, Water Quality
Assessment Section
Water Quality Division
Mail Code 150
12100 Park 35 Circle
P.O. Box 13087
Austin, TX 78711-3087

Ms. Cathy Gilmore
Coordinator
US EPA Region 6
1445 Ross Ave., 12th flr. Ste. 1200
Dallas, TX 75202-2733

Ms. Karen Hadden
Sustainable Energy & Economic
Development (SEED) Coalition
1303 San Antonio #100
Austin, TX 78701

Mr. Troy Hill, Chief
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency,
Region 6
Marine and Wetlands Section (6WQ-EM)
1445 Ross Ave.
Dallas, TX 75202

Mr. Jayson Hudson, Project Manager
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
P.O. Box 1229
Galveston, TX 77554

Ms. Marilyn C. Kray, Vice President
New Plant Development
Exelon Nuclear Texas Holdings, LLC
200 Exelon Way
Kennett Square, PA 19348

Mr. Rollin MacRae
Wetland Program Leader
Texas Parks and Wildlife Department
Resource Protection Division
4200 Smith School Rd.
Austin, TX 78744

Mr. Carlos Mendoza, Supervisor
Houston Field Office
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
17629 El Camino Real, Suite 211
Houston, TX 77058

Victoria Mailing List

cc:

Mr. Hector Pena
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
1445 Ross Avenue Suite 1200
Mailstop 6EN
Dallas, TX 75202

Rusty Swafford
National Marine Fisheries Service
Habitat Conservation Division
4700 Avenue U
Galveston, TX 77551-5997

Ms. Liz Thompson
Public Services Librarian
Victoria Public Library
302 N. Main
Victoria, TX 77901

Mr. Joshua R. Trembley, P.E. (JT)
Environmental Engineer, Licensing
Exelon Corporation
200 Exelon Way
Kennett Square, PA 19348

Ms. Amy Turner
Texas Parks and Wildlife Department
Habitat Assessment Program
2805 N. Navarro, 600-B
Victoria, TX 77901

Mr. Mark Wolfe
Chief Deputy Executive Officer
State Historic Preservation Officer
Division of Antiquities Protection Texas
Historical Commission
P.O. Box 12276
Austin, TX 78711

Victoria Mailing List

cc:

sharonbarnard@victoriaedc.com (Sharon Barnard)

david.distel@exeloncorp.com (David Distel)

jffiger@comcast.net (John Figer)

rcfritz@suddenlink.net (Richard Fritz)

amy.hanna@tpwd.state.tx.us (Amy Hanna)

herrington.jim@epa.gov (Jim Herrington)

bill361@sbcglobal.net (Bill Jones)

marilyn.kray@exeloncorp.com (Marilyn Kray)

Victoria Mailing List
cc:

ESP - Exelon - Victoria Mailing List
cc:

(Revised 08/24/2010)

Ms. Michele Boyd
Legislative Director
Energy Program
Public Citizens Critical Mass Energy
and Environmental Program
215 Pennsylvania Avenue, SE
Washington, DC 20003

Victoria Mailing List

cc:

ESP - Exelon - Victoria Mailing List

Email

annie@ieer.org (Annie Makhijani)
APH@NEI.org (Adrian Heymer)
Arjun@ieer.org (Arjun Makhijani)
awc@nei.org (Anne W. Cottingham)
BrinkmCB@westinghouse.com (Charles Brinkman)
charles@blackburncarter.com (Charles Irvine)
chris.maslak@ge.com (Chris Maslak)
cwaltman@roe.com (C. Waltman)
david.distel@exeloncorp.com (David Distel)
david.lewis@pillsburylaw.com (David Lewis)
dcurran@harmoncurran.com (Diane Curran)
Derlinda.Bailey@chguernsey.com (Derinda Bailey)
donald.woodlan@luminant.com (Donald Woodlan)
ed.burns@earthlink.net (Ed Burns)
gcesare@enercon.com (Guy Cesare)
jbb@blackburncarter.com (Jim Blackburn)
jerald.head@ge.com (Jerald G. Head)
jgutierrez@morganlewis.com (Jay M. Gutierrez)
jim.riccio@wdc.greenpeace.org (James Riccio)
joseph.bauer@exeloncorp.com (Joe Bauer)
Joseph_Hegner@dom.com (Joseph Hegner)
karen@seedcoalition.org (Karen Hadden)
kenneth.ainger@exeloncorp.com (Kenneth Ainger)
KSutton@morganlewis.com (Kathryn M. Sutton)
kwaugh@impact-net.org (Kenneth O. Waugh)
lchandler@morganlewis.com (Lawrence J. Chandler)
ldblaylock@cpsenergy.com (Larry Blaylock)
Marc.Brooks@dhs.gov (Marc Brooks)
maria.webb@pillsburylaw.com (Maria Webb)
marilyn.kray@exeloncorp.com
mark.beaumont@wsms.com (Mark Beaumont)
Mark.Crisp@chguernsey.com (Mark Crisp)
matias.travieso-diaz@pillsburylaw.com (Matias Travieso-Diaz)
media@nei.org (Scott Peterson)
mfraser@harmoncurran.com (Matthew Fraser)
mike_moran@fpl.com (Mike Moran)
MSF@nei.org (Marvin Fertel)
nirsnet@nirs.org (Michael Mariotte)
Nuclaw@mindspring.com (Robert Temple)
patriciaL.campbell@ge.com (Patricia L. Campbell)
Paul@beyondnuclear.org (Paul Gunter)
pshastings@duke-energy.com (Peter Hastings)
RJB@NEI.org (Russell Bell)
sabinski@suddenlink.net (Steve A. Bennett)

Victoria Mailing List

cc:

sandra.sloan@areva.com (Sandra Sloan)
sfrantz@morganlewis.com (Stephen P. Frantz)
stephan.moen@ge.com (Stephan Moen)
thomas.mundy@exeloncorp.com (Thomas Mundy)
Vanessa.quinn@dhs.gov (Vanessa Quinn)
Wanda.K.Marshall@dom.com (Wanda K. Marshall)