



NRC NEWS

U.S. NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

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NRC TO SEEK PUBLIC INPUT ON SEPT. 15 ON DRAFT REPORT ASSESSING POSSIBLE ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACTS OF SEABROOK LICENSE EXTENSION

Nuclear Regulatory Commission staff will hold a pair of public meetings on Thursday, Sept. 15, to solicit public comments on an NRC draft report which assesses possible environmental impacts of a proposed 20-year extension of the Seabrook nuclear power plant's operating license. Seabrook is a pressurized-water reactor located in Seabrook, N.H., and operated by NextEra Energy Seabrook, LLC.

NextEra submitted the license renewal application for the plant on June 1, 2010.

The first session will begin at 1:30 p.m. at the One Liberty Lane Office and Conference Center, at 1 Liberty Lane East ([directions](#)) in Hampton, N.H. A second session, which will follow the same format as the first meeting, will start at 7 p.m. at the same location.

In addition, the NRC staff will host informal discussions with interested members of the public for one hour prior to the start of each meeting. This will be opportunity for citizens to talk informally with agency staff. However, formal comments must be expressed during the transcribed meetings.

"The NRC began reviewing the Seabrook license renewal application last year and that comprehensive evaluation process is continuing," said Brian Holian, Director of the NRC's Division of License Renewal. "A key step in that process is the development of an environmental assessment. These meetings will provide a perfect opportunity for members of the public to share their insights on the NRC's Draft Environmental Impact Statement, which will help inform our ongoing reviews."

After consideration of comments on the draft report, the NRC staff will prepare a Final Environmental Impact Statement. It will contain a recommendation regarding the environmental acceptability of the license renewal action.

A copy of the Draft Environmental Impact Statement for Seabrook is available in [ADAMS](#) on the NRC's [website](#) and at the Seabrook Library, at 25 Liberty St. in Seabrook, and the Amesbury Public Library, at 149 Main St. in Amesbury, Mass.

Under NRC regulations, the original operating license for a nuclear power plant has a term of 40 years. The license may be renewed for up to an additional 20 years, provided that NRC requirements are met. The current operating license for Seabrook is set to expire on March 15, 2030.

As part of the application, NextEra submitted an [environmental report](#) for the plant. The report is also available for review at the NRC's [Public Document Room](#) in Rockville, Md., which can be reached by phone at 1-800-397-4209 and at the library.

Interested individuals may register to attend or present oral comments at the Sept. 15 meetings by contacting NRC Project Manager Michael Wentzel by telephone at 301-415-6459, or by [e-mail](#) by Sept. 14. Those who wish to comment may also register at the meetings within 15 minutes of the start of each session. Individual oral comments may be limited by the time available, depending on the number of persons who register.

Additional information on the [license renewal review process](#) is available on the [NRC website](#).

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