

NRC NEWS

U.S. NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

Office of Public Affairs Telephone: 301/415-8200 Washington, D.C. 20555-0001

E-mail: opa.resource@nrc.gov Site: www.nrc.gov Blog: http://public-blog.nrc-gateway.gov

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NRC ANNOUNCES HEARING OPPORTUNITY, PUBLIC MEETING ON CALLAWAY NUCLEAR POWER PLANT LICENSE RENEWAL APPLICATION

The Nuclear Regulatory Commission has announced the opportunity to request a hearing on an application to renew the operating license for the Callaway Plant, Unit 1, and has also called for public comment on the scope of its environmental review of the application.

The announcements were contained in two notices published today in the *Federal Register*. Preparation of an Environmental Impact Statement is part of the NRC's two-pronged review of the application (along with a technical safety review). An adjudicatory hearing before the NRC's Atomic Safety and Licensing Board is a separate process in which members of the public may file contentions challenging aspects of the application.

The Callaway plant is a pressurized-water reactor located near Fulton, Mo. Union Electric Co. submitted the renewal application Dec. 19. The current operating license for Callaway expires Oct. 18, 2024.

The NRC staff has determined that the application contains sufficient information for the agency to formally "docket," or file, the application and begin its technical review. Docketing the application does not preclude requesting additional information as the review proceeds; nor does it indicate whether the Commission will grant the application.

The March 14 public meetings on the environmental review will be held at Fulton City Hall, 18 East 4th St., in Fulton, from 2-4 p.m. and 7-9 p.m. At both sessions, NRC staff will present an overview of the environmental review process and seek input from the public about the potential scope of the review. NRC staff will be available for an hour prior to each meeting for informal discussions with the public. Written comments on the scope of the environmental review will be accepted through April 24 and may be filed through the federal government's rulemaking website at www.regulations.gov, using Docket ID NRC-2012-0001. They may also be mailed to Cindy Bladey, Chief, Rules, Announcements, and Directive Branch, Office of Administration, Mail Stop: TWB-05-B01M, U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission, Washington D.C., 20555-0001, or faxed to 301-492-3446.

The deadline for requesting an adjudicatory hearing is April 24. By that date, petitions must be filed by anyone whose interest may be affected by the license renewal and who wishes to participate as a party in the proceeding. The notice includes detailed instructions for requesting a hearing through the NRC's E-filing system's <u>electronic submittal page</u>. For specific guidance and instructions on public involvement in hearings visit the NRC <u>website</u>.

Information about the <u>license renewal process</u> and the <u>Callaway renewal application</u> can be found online at the NRC website.

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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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