



NRC NEWS

U.S. NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

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No. I-12-028

May 30, 2012

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ORAL ARGUMENTS SESSION ON REQUEST FOR HEARING ON NRC ORDERS PLANNED FOR JUNE 7th IN BOSTON

A three-member Atomic Safety and Licensing Board (ASLB) will hear oral arguments on Thursday, June 7, on a hearing request regarding two NRC post-Fukushima orders. The session will begin at 10 a.m. in Courtroom 1 at the John W. McCormack Post Office and Courthouse, 5 Post Office Square, Boston.

The courtroom is located on the 12th floor.

On March 19, the NRC issued three orders in response to the March 2011 events at the Fukushima nuclear power plant in Japan. The purpose of the orders is to enhance the safety of U.S. power reactors using lessons learned from Fukushima, which was severely damaged by an earthquake and tsunami.

In response to the issuance of the orders, two organizations, Pilgrim Watch and Beyond Nuclear, in early April submitted requests for a hearing on them. The orders being challenged deal with reliable hardened containment vents and spent fuel pool instrumentation. Beyond Nuclear has since withdrawn its hearing request.

The Pilgrim Watch hearing request states that the orders are not adequate to meet concerns stemming from the Fukushima accident.

After considering the request, the ASLB panel assigned to review it has concluded the filings raise several issues that require further exploration via an oral arguments session.

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