



# NRC NEWS

U.S. NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

Office of Public Affairs Region III

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## **NRC SCHEDULES NOVEMBER 1 MEETING TO DISCUSS OVERSIGHT OF ZION NUCLEAR POWER PLANT AND DECOMMISSIONING**

The Nuclear Regulatory Commission staff will hold a public meeting on Thursday, Nov. 1, to discuss the agency's actions to ensure the safe decommissioning of the Zion Nuclear Power Station. The two-unit plant, located in Zion, Ill., is approximately 40 miles north of Chicago, and ceased operation in 1997.

Decommissioning activities at the plant are being carried out by ZionSolutions, a subsidiary of EnergySolutions created to manage the decommissioning work at Zion and based in Salt Lake city, Utah.

The meeting will be held at 6 p.m. CDT in the Illinois Beach Resort and Conference Center, One Lake Front Drive, in Zion. The public is encouraged to participate in the meeting, which is tailored to provide members of the public with an opportunity to have a dialogue with NRC representatives. NRC staff will also be available for questions and discussion after the meeting.

During the Nov. 1 meeting, NRC staff will discuss its roles and oversight of the decommissioning project. The NRC will also address issues of concern, such as how people can have confidence that spent nuclear fuel at Zion will be stored safely and how NRC's oversight processes assure that the site is decontaminated to levels that permit release of the property and termination of the NRC license.

Zion Unit 1 operated from 1973 to 1997; Unit 2 operated from 1974 to 1996. After a nuclear plant is permanently shut down, the NRC requires decommissioning to take place within 60 years of the shut down date. In 2008, plant owner Exelon Corp. submitted a request to the NRC to transfer licensed ownership to ZionSolutions. The NRC reviewed the license transfer

request, making sure that the company had proper staffing and expertise to safely implement decommissioning activities and that there would be sufficient funds to fully decommission the plant. The NRC approved the license transfer Sep. 2010.

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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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