



NRC NEWS

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NRC TO DISCUSS PRELIMINARY RESULTS OF INSPECTION FOR GRAND GULF NUCLEAR PLANT LICENSE RENEWAL APPLICATION

The Nuclear Regulatory Commission staff will present preliminary results of an inspection conducted as part of the agency's review of the Grand Gulf nuclear power plant's license renewal application on Jan. 31. The plant, located near Port Gibson, Miss., is operated by Entergy Operations.

The meeting will be held from 4:30 to 6 p.m. at the Port Gibson City Hall, 1005 College St., in Port Gibson. NRC Region IV staff, from Arlington, Texas, will describe the results of the inspection and be available to answer questions from the public.

The NRC team inspected the plant's aging management programs as they are applied to systems, structures and components within the scope of license renewal. The team also assessed the processes used to determine what systems, structures and components are required to be monitored for aging effects.

Under NRC regulations, the original operating license for a commercial nuclear power plant has a term of 40 years. The license can be renewed for up to an additional 20 years if NRC requirements are met. The current operating license for the Grand Gulf plant expires on Nov. 1, 2024.

On Nov. 1, 2011, Entergy Operations submitted an application to extend the plant's license by 20 years. The inspection of the plant's aging management programs is one of a number of NRC activities involved in evaluating a license renewal application. The NRC still must determine whether further inspections are needed as part of its review of the application.

Currently no final licensing decisions for reactors, including license renewal, will be made by the Commission until the waste confidence rule is completed. NRC's waste confidence environmental impact statement and rule are expected by September 2014.

Additional information concerning license renewal and the Grand Gulf application in particular can be found at: <http://www.nrc.gov/reactors/operating/licensing/renewal.html>.

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