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NRC Seeks Public Comment on Draft Environmental Study Of Braidwood Nuclear Plant License Renewal Application

The Nuclear Regulatory Commission is seeking public comment on a draft study detailing the environmental impacts of renewing the operating licenses of the Braidwood Nuclear Plant, Units 1 and 2, in Illinois. The draft environmental impact statement contains the NRC staff's preliminary conclusion that the impacts would not preclude renewing the plant's licenses for an additional 20 years.

NRC staff will hold two public meetings April 21 in Godley, Ill., to present the draft study's findings and hear comments from the public. The meetings will be held at the Godley Park District, 500 S. Kankakee St., from 2-4 p.m. and 7-9 p.m.

The Braidwood plant has two pressurized water reactors, located in Braceville, about 20 miles southwest of Joliet. The reactors are currently licensed to operate through Oct. 17, 2026, for Unit 1 and Dec. 18, 2027, for Unit 2. The operator, Exelon Generation Co., submitted its renewal application May 29, 2013.

The NRC's review of the application consists of a technical safety review and an environmental review. The draft supplemental environmental impact statement is Supplement 55 to NUREG-1437, Generic Environmental Impact Statement for License Renewal of Nuclear Plants. It is now available on the [NRC's website](#).

In a related [Federal Register notice](#) published today, the NRC provided detailed instructions on how to submit written comments on the draft supplemental environmental impact statement. Comments will be accepted through May 12.

The [Braidwood license renewal application](#) and general information about [reactor license renewal](#) are available on the NRC website.