

Rulemaking1CEm Resource

From: RulemakingComments Resource
Sent: Tuesday, March 15, 2016 10:41 AM
To: Rulemaking1CEm Resource
Subject: FW: U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commissions's Advanced Notice of Proposed Rulemaking-Docket ID NRC-2015-0070
Attachments: Comment of James Vehrs on behalf of the City of Braidwood.pdf

DOCKETED BY USNRC—OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

SECY-067

PR#: ANPR-26, 50, 52, 73, and 140

FRN#: 80FR72358

NRC DOCKET#: NRC-2015-0070

SECY DOCKET DATE: 2/26/16

TITLE: Regulatory Improvements for Decommissioning Power Reactors

COMMENT#: 042

From: Sue Grygiel [mailto:sgrygiel@braidwood.us]
Sent: Friday, February 26, 2016 12:28 PM
To: RulemakingComments Resource <RulemakingComments.Resource@nrc.gov>
Subject: [External_Sender] U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commissions's Advanced Notice of Proposed Rulemaking-Docket ID NRC-2015-0070

Secretary of the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission.

Please find attached a letter from Mayor James Vehrs of Braidwood, regarding public comments on decommissioning and local participation to be submitted to the NRC.

Sincerely,

Sue Grygiel, RC, CMC
Braidwood City Clerk
Phone: 815-458-2333 x. 203
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sgrygiel@braidwood.us

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MAYOR
James A. Vehrs

CITY CLERK
Sue Grygiel



February 25, 2016

Secretary
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Washington, DC 20555-0001
Rulemaking.Comments@nrc.gov

ATTN: Rulemakings and Adjudications Staff

**RE: U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission's Advanced Notice of Proposed
Rulemaking (Docket ID NRC-2015-0070)**

Dear Secretary,

The City of Braidwood ("City") is a local governmental body with a vested interest in the future of Exelon Generation Company's ("Exelon") Braidwood Nuclear Generating Station ("Braidwood Station") located in Braceville, Illinois. The impact of Braidwood Station within its host community is significant. Braidwood Station, which is named after the City, lies just outside the City limits; in fact, the City provides sewer services to Braidwood Station. Exelon is a predominant taxpayer in the Will County – with Braidwood Station itself representing approximately 2.3% of the County's equalized assessed value in tax year 2014. It is also the largest employer in the area – employing approximately 864 employees.

Braidwood Unit 1 was issued an initial operating license in 1987, which was renewed in 2016. Its current license is scheduled to expire in 2046. Braidwood Unit 2 was issued an initial operating license in 1988, which was renewed in 2016. Its current license is scheduled to expire in 2047. The City does not know whether Exelon will apply for Subsequent License Renewals for Braidwood Station.

This comment is being submitted in response to Section V of the Advanced Notice of Proposed Rulemaking ("ANPR") entitled "Specific Considerations," which asks whether the current role of the States, members of the public, or other stakeholders in the decommissioning process should be expanded or enhanced, and whether the NRC's regulations should mandate the formation of advisory panels. The City strongly supports an expanded role for State and local governmental bodies and NRC regulations to mandate the formation of advisory panels.

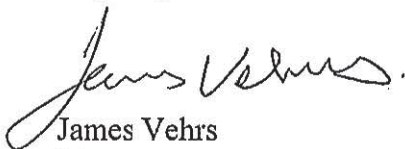
Should Exelon announce its intention to permanently close Braidwood Station at any point in time, it is only appropriate that the local governmental bodies have the opportunity to discuss the closure and decommissioning of the station and provide input regarding the impact such closure

and decommissioning will have on the local governmental bodies and their constituents. Topics of discussion should include, in part, the timing of decommissioning, the owner and/or operator's continuing obligations to the local governmental bodies, and options for mitigating the impact of closure on the host community. These topics are of particular importance because it remains unknown when the spent fuel will be removed from the site. The severity of the potential impacts of closing the community's predominant taxpayer and largest employer necessitate an approach that incorporates such considerations.

As Section V of the ANPR acknowledges, State and local governmental bodies are often involved in an advisory capacity (as part of a community engagement panel, for example) for most decommissioning sites. The formation of such panels, however, is not currently required by NRC regulations. Given the significant impact of nuclear plant closure and decommissioning on host communities, the NRC regulations should mandate the formation of advisory panels that include State and local governmental bodies. It is the City's hope that such panels would foster communication and information exchange between the owners of nuclear power stations and local governmental bodies from the host communities in order to plan for and mitigate the impacts of decommissioning on the host communities.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission's Advanced Notice of Proposed Rulemaking, Docket ID NRC-2015-0070.

Regards,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "James Vehrs", is written over the printed name.

James Vehrs
Mayor
City of Braidwood