



Public Notice

U.S. Army Corps
of Engineers

In Reply to Application Number
CENAB-OPR-P-2008-01401-P13(PPL Bell Bend,
LLC/Bell Bend Nuclear Power Plant)

Baltimore District
PN 15-27

Comment Period: April 17, 2015 to July 1, 2015

THE PURPOSE OF THIS PUBLIC NOTICE IS TO ANNOUNCE THE RELEASE AND AVAILABILITY OF THE DRAFT ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT STATEMENT (DEIS), PREPARED BY THE NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION (NRC) AND THE U.S. ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS (CORPS). THIS ALSO PROVIDES NOTICE OF A PUBLIC MEETING/PUBLIC HEARING BY THE NRC AND THE CORPS. AT THIS TIME, NO DECISION HAS BEEN MADE AS TO WHETHER OR NOT A PERMIT WILL BE ISSUED FOR THE PROPOSED WORK.

The NRC is the “lead Federal agency” in the preparation of the Draft and Final Environmental Impact Statements (DEIS/FEIS) for work associated with the construction of a new nuclear power plant, at a site adjacent to the existing Susquehanna Steam Electric Station (SSES). The Corps is a cooperating agency with NRC on the preparation of the DEIS and FEIS for this proposal. The environmental impact of construction activities in waters of the U.S., including jurisdictional wetlands, will be reviewed by the Corps and addressed in the FEIS. The Corps permit decision will be made following issuance of the FEIS.

Notice is hereby given that the NRC and the Corps have published the DEIS for the Combined License (COL) for the Bell Bend Nuclear Power Plant, and it’s availability for public inspection. The NRC and the Corps have released this DEIS concerning the proposal by PPL Bell Bend, LLC to perform site preparation activities and construct supporting facilities at the site of a proposed 1,600 MW (megawatts) power generation station. The project site is located approximately five miles northwest of Berwick, near the west bank of the Susquehanna River, in Salem Township, Luzerne County, Pennsylvania.

The DEIS can be accessed as follows:

1. Federal Rulemaking Web Site: Go to <http://www.regulations.gov> and search for Docket ID NRC-2008-0603
2. NRC Agency-wide Documents Access and Management System (ADAMS): You may obtain publicly available documents online in the NRC Library at <http://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/adams.html>. To begin the search, select “ADAMS Public Documents” and then select “Begin Web-based ADAMS Search”. For problems with ADAMS, please contact the NRC’s Public Document Room (PDR) reference staff at 1-800-397-4209, 301-415-4737, or by e-mail to pdr.resource@nrc.gov. The DEIS is available in ADAMS under accession Nos. ML15103A012 and ML15103A025.

3. NRC Public Document Room (PDR): You may examine and purchase copies of public documents at the NRC's PDR, Room O1-F21, One White Flint North, 11555 Rockville Pike, Rockville, Maryland 20852. Please reference Docket ID NRC-2008-0603.
4. Project Web Site: The DEIS can be accessed online at the Bell Bend COL specific Web page at: <http://www.nrc.gov/reactors/new-reactors/col/bell-bend.html>
5. The DEIS is also available for review and inspection (not for distribution) at:

U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Baltimore District
 State College Field Office
 1631 South Atherton Street, Suite 102
 State College, PA 16801

(Note: please contact Mrs. Amy Elliott, Regulatory Project Manager, by e-mail at amy.h.elliott@usace.army.mil or telephone number (814)235-0573 to make arrangements for reviewing the DEIS).

However, if you wish to receive a CD-ROM of the DEIS, please contact Ms. Tomeka Terry by telephone at 301-415-1488 or by e-mail at Tomeka.Terry@nrc.gov; Ms. Patricia Vokoun by telephone at 301-415-3470 or by e-mail at Patricia.Vokoun@nrc.gov; or Mrs. Amy Elliott by telephone at 814-235-0573 or by e-mail at amy.h.elliott@usace.army.mil.

Any interested party may submit comments on the DEIS for consideration by the NRC staff. Comments may be accompanied by additional relevant information or supporting data. This DEIS report is being issued with a 75-day comment period. The comment period begins on the date that the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency publishes a Notice of Filing in the Federal Register, which is on April 24, 2015. Such notices are published every Friday. The notice will identify the end date of the comment period. Members of the public may submit comments on the DEIS by any of the following methods:

1. Federal Rulemaking Web Site: Go to <http://www.regulations.gov> and search for Docket ID NRC-2008-0603. Address questions about NRC dockets to Carol Gallagher; telephone: 301-415-3463; e-mail: Carol.Gallagher@nrc.gov.
2. Mail comments to: Cindy Bladey, Office of Administration, Mail stop: OWFN 12 H8, Nuclear Regulatory Commission, Washington, DC 20555-0001.
3. During the public meeting on the DEIS.

Please include Docket ID NRC-2008-0603 in the subject line of your comments. The NRC cautions you not to include identifying or contact information that you do not want to be publicly disclosed in your comment submission. The NRC posts all comment submissions at <http://www.regulations.gov> as well as enters the comment submissions into ADAMS. The NRC does not routinely edit comment submissions to remove identifying or contact information.

The NRC and the Corps will hold two joint public meeting/public hearings to present an overview of the DEIS and to accept public comments on the document:

Date: June 4, 2015

Location: Bloomsburg University, Monty's Building Upper Campus, 400 East Second Street, Bloomsburg, Pennsylvania.

The first meeting will convene at 3:00 p.m. and will continue until 5:30 p.m. as necessary. The second meeting will convene at 7:30 p.m., with a repeat of the overview portions of the first meeting, and will continue until 10:00 p.m. as necessary. Additionally, the NRC and Corps staff will host informal discussions one (1) hour before the start of each meeting during which members of the public may meet and talk with the NRC and Corps staff members on an informal basis. No formal comments on the DEIS will be accepted during these informal discussions.

The joint NRC Public Meetings/Corps Public Hearings will be transcribed and will include a presentation of the contents of the DEIS, and the opportunity for interested government agencies, organizations, and individuals to provide comments on the draft report. To be considered, comments must be provided during the transcribed public meeting either orally or in writing.

The joint NRC Public Meetings/Corps Public Hearings will provide the opportunity for interested parties to present views, opinions, and information that will be considered by the NRC for purposes of their regulatory jurisdiction, and by the Corps in evaluating the Department of the Army permit application.

Interested groups and individuals are encouraged to attend the public meetings/hearings and to present oral comments on the DEIS. After these comments are reviewed, any significant new issues are investigated, and any required modifications are made to the DEIS, a FEIS will be published and distributed. The FEIS will contain responses to comments that were received timely in response to the DEIS.

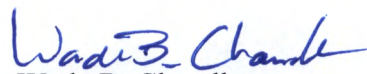
Persons may pre-register to attend or present oral comments at the meeting by contacting Ms. Tomeka Terry by telephone at 301-415-1488, or by e-mail at Tomeka.Terry@nrc.gov or Ms. Patricia Vokoun by telephone at 301-415-3470 or by e-mail at Patricia.Vokoun@nrc.gov no later than May 28, 2015. Members of the public may also register to speak at the meeting within 15 minutes of the start of the meeting. Individual oral comments may be limited by the time available depending on the number of persons who register. Members of the public who have not registered may also have an opportunity to speak, if time permits. Ms. Tomeka Terry or Ms. Patricia Vokoun will need to be contacted no later than May 28, 2015, if special equipment or accommodations are needed to attend or present information at the public meeting, so that the NRC can determine whether the request can be accommodated. For further information contact: Ms. Tomeka Terry or Ms. Patricia Vokoun, Environmental Projects Branch, Division of New Reactors Licensing, Office of New Reactors, U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission, Mail Stop: TWFN 6C32, Washington, DC 20555-0001.

By Corps' regulation (33CFR 327.8), the Corps will not provide rebuttal to the public hearing testimony. All oral testimony will be recorded and a transcript prepared. All comments received will become part of the official project record.

Corps of Engineers Permit Application:

The Baltimore District received an application, for a Department of the Army Permit pursuant to Section 10 of the Rivers and Harbors Act of 1899 (33 U.S.C. 403) and Section 404 of the Clean Water Act (33 U.S.C. 1344), and was previously advertised by Corps Public Notice on January 23, 2012. A copy of the Public Notice can be found at:

<http://www.nab.usace.army.mil/Missions/Regulatory/PublicNotices/PublicNoticeView/tabid/16587/Article/578804/12-07-bell-bend-nuclear-power-plant.aspx>



Wade B. Chandler
Chief, Pennsylvania Section
Regulatory Branch