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NRC to Issue New Reactor License to Dominion for North Anna Site

The Nuclear Regulatory Commission has authorized the issuance of a Combined License for Dominion Virginia Power's North Anna site in Virginia. The license grants Dominion permission to build and operate an Economic Simplified Boiling Water Reactor ([ESBWR](#)) design at the site, near Mineral, Va.

The Commission authorized the agency's Office of New Reactors to issue the license following a [hearing](#) on March 23. The Commission found the staff's review of Dominion's application to be adequate to make the necessary regulatory safety and environmental findings. NRC expects to issue the license in the next few days.

The license contains conditions, including:

- Specific actions associated with the agency's post-Fukushima requirements for [Mitigation Strategies](#) and [Spent Fuel Pool Instrumentation](#);
- A pre-startup schedule for post-Fukushima aspects of the new reactor's emergency preparedness plans and procedures.

Dominion submitted the North Anna application for an ESBWR adjacent to the company's two existing reactors to NRC on Nov. 26, 2007. The NRC certified the 1,600-megawatt ESBWR design following a [Commission vote](#) in September 2014. More information on the ESBWR [certification process](#) is available on the NRC website.

The NRC's Advisory Committee on Reactor Safeguards independently reviewed aspects of the application that concern safety, as well as the staff's [final safety evaluation report](#). The committee provided the [results](#) of its review to the Commission on Nov. 15, 2016. The NRC completed its [environmental review](#) and published the final impact statement for the proposed reactor in February 2010.