

NRC NEWS

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NRC Seeks Public Comment on Draft Environmental Impact Statement for Clinch River Early Site Permit

Nuclear Regulatory Commission staff will meet with the public in Kingston, Tenn., on June 5, to discuss the agency's Draft Environmental Impact Statement on the Early Site Permit application for the nearby Clinch River site. The NRC is interested in the public's views on the agency's overall draft conclusion that environmental impacts would be small enough to allow the agency to issue the permit.

The NRC will hold the meetings at Noah's Event Venue, 1200 Ladd Landing Blvd., in Kingston, from 2-4 p.m., and 7-9 p.m., (as needed). NRC staff will describe the environmental review process and the DEIS conclusions. Each meeting will conclude with a formal public comment period. NRC open houses from 1-2 p.m., and 6-7 p.m., will provide members of the public the opportunity to talk informally with agency staff.

Those wishing to register in advance to comment at the meetings should contact Patricia Vokoun by telephone at 800-368-5642 x3470 or via e-mail at ClinchRiverESPEIS@nrc.gov by May 30. The *Federal Register* notice includes information on commenting and participating in the meeting.

The Tennessee Valley Authority submitted the Clinch River application in May 2016 and provided follow-up information throughout the year. The Early Site Permit process determines whether a site is suitable for future construction and operation of a nuclear power plant. The NRC held meetings in Oak Ridge in May 2017 to gather comments from the community regarding issues to include in the environmental review.

The <u>application</u>, minus proprietary and security-related details, is available on the NRC website. In addition, the Oak Ridge Public Library, 1401 Oak Ridge Turnpike in Oak Ridge, and the Kingston Public Library, 1004 Bradford Way in Kingston, Tenn., will maintain a copy of the application's environmental report for public inspection.

TVA is seeking resolution of safety and environmental issues related to a potential small modular reactor at the site, approximately five miles southwest of Oak Ridge. The NRC has established docket number 52-047 for this application. More information about the new reactor licensing process is available on the NRC website.