

Official Transcript of Proceedings
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

Title: Peach Bottom Units 2 and 3
Subsequent License Renewal
Scoping Meeting

Docket Number: (n/a)

Location: Delta, Pennsylvania

Date: Tuesday, September 25, 2018

Work Order No.: NRC-3904

Pages 1-43

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UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

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PEACH BOTTOM UNITS 2 AND 3

+ + + + +

SUBSEQUENT LICENSE RENEWAL SCOPING MEETING

+ + + + +

TUESDAY

SEPTEMBER 25, 2018

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The meeting was held in the Banquet Hall
at the Peach Bottom Inn, 6085 Delta Road, Delta,
Pennsylvania, at 6:00 p.m., Brett Klukan,
Facilitator, presiding.

NRC STAFF PRESENT:

BRETT KLUKAN, Facilitator

BEN BEASLEY, NRR

BENNETT BRADY, NRR

JOE DONOGHUE, NRR

DAVID DRUCKER, NRR

KEVIN FOLK, NRR

LAUREN GIBSON, NRR

JUSTIN HEINLY, Region I

ERIC OESTERLE, NRR

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ALBERT WONG, NRR

ANGELA WU, NRR

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1 P R O C E E D I N G S

2 (6:03 p.m.)

3 MR. KLUKAN: All right, welcome,
4 everyone. My name is Brett Klukan. Normally, I'm
5 the regional counsel for Region I of the U.S. Nuclear
6 Regulatory Commission, the region we're in right now.
7 But tonight, I'll be acting as a facilitator for this
8 meeting.

9 I'm hoping everyone can hear me well
10 enough. I assume so. All right.

11 So, the NRC is holding this meeting
12 tonight because Exelon Generation Company, LLC, in
13 short, Exelon, submitted a subsequent license renewal
14 application for Peach Bottom Atomic Power Station
15 Units 2 and 3 to the Nuclear Regulatory Commission,
16 you'll often hear that called the NRC, on July 10th
17 of this year, 2018.

18 The NRC is currently reviewing that
19 application. The purpose of the meeting tonight is
20 two-fold: first, to provide you with an overview of
21 the NRC's subsequent license renewal process; and
22 second, to collect from you information to help us
23 focus the scope of the environmental review that will
24 result in the development of an environmental impact
25 statement, otherwise known as an EIS.

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1 First off, just a few minor housekeeping
2 issues. We request that you refrain from eating or
3 smoking in the meeting room, primarily smoking, given
4 that we're kind of in a restaurant. Two, the
5 bathrooms are just -- if you go down this door, out
6 this door, and then make a right, they're right there.
7 The exits are just to your -- behind you, and then
8 through this room to your right, when you're facing
9 that way.

10 Cameras are permitted, just please try
11 not to obstruct the view of other audience members
12 and be judicious of flash. If you would so kind as
13 to silent your cell phones at this time.

14 If we are asked to evacuate the building
15 in the event of an emergency. Please follow any
16 instructions from the hotel staff. The hotel has
17 also provided drinking water, I think in the back of
18 the room somewhere, it's over there. Okay, on the
19 back table by that sign. So please feel free.

20 I would also ask that we keep this front
21 area clear up in here. There are cords and what not,
22 so when you do come up to speak during the public
23 comment period, come up from this side, come to the
24 podium and then leave the same way. Also, it's kind
25 of blinding when you go in front of the screen.

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1 Okay, copies of the meeting's slide
2 presentation are available on the registration table.
3 If you are having difficulty locating a copy, just
4 find an NRC staff member and we'll get you one.

5 Feedback forms are also located on that
6 table. We, the NRC, would very much appreciate it
7 if by the end of the meeting tonight, you could spare
8 a couple of minutes and fill out one of those forms
9 and return it to us. We use that feedback to improve
10 future NRC meetings. Feedback can also be provided
11 directly through the NRC website and a link is
12 provided on the feedback form.

13 For your awareness tonight, the meeting
14 is being recorded and a transcript will be generated
15 after the meeting. So in light of that, I would ask
16 that when it is your turn to speak, will you please
17 identify yourself, spell your name, and provide any
18 affiliation, if any. I would also ask for the sake
19 of the audio recording that you try not to speak over
20 each other.

21 So the meeting tonight will be broken
22 into several parts. We'll begin tonight with a
23 presentation from the NRC staff intended to broadly
24 cover the license renewal process, including both the
25 safety review process, and the environmental process.

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1 When that concludes, we'll address any questions you
2 may have regarding either the substance of the NRC's
3 presentation or the license renewal process itself.

4 Questions will be limited to those two
5 topics so as to maximize the amount of time for the
6 public comment portion of the meeting which is why
7 we're here tonight. After that, the rest of the
8 meeting, as I noted, will be devoted to hearing
9 comments from you, the members of the public.

10 Are there any elected officials in the
11 meeting? I didn't see any on the registration table
12 sign-in, but just in case I like to make this
13 announcement. Are there any elected officials here
14 who would like to stand and be recognized? I didn't
15 think so, but I just wanted to check.

16 So with that, I'll move on to introducing
17 the NRC staff in attendance. When you hear your
18 name, please raise your hand just so the audience
19 knows who you are.

20 First off, we have Bennett Brady. She's
21 the Senior Project Manager for the safety review and
22 will present the overview and safety portion of the
23 briefing. In the back there.

24 Next, we have Lauren Gibson, the Project
25 Manager for the environmental review and will present

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1 the environmental portion of the meeting.

2 David Drucker is the Senior Project
3 Manager for the environmental review.

4 Joe Donoghue is the Senior NRC Manager
5 with us tonight and he will close out the meeting.

6 Other NRC attendees we have with us
7 include Eric Oesterle, Ben Beasley, Kevin Folk,
8 Albert Wong, Angela Wu, Jennifer Tobin, all from NRC
9 headquarters in Rockville, Maryland. And from
10 Region I we have Justin Heinly, and we also have Neil
11 Sheehan.

12 With that, I'll turn it over to Bennett
13 Brady for the overview and safety portions of the
14 presentation. Thank you very much.

15 MS. BRADY: Good evening. I am Bennett
16 Brady. I'm the Senior Project Manager for the
17 subsequent license renewal safety review.

18 Can you hear me in the back? Good.
19 Thank you.

20 This slide gives an overview of the
21 subsequent license renewal review process. There are
22 two parallel reviews that go on at the same time, the
23 safety review and the environmental review.

24 Across the top of this slide is the
25 environmental review which Lauren Gibson will speak

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1 to you shortly on that.

2 The safety review is down at the bottom
3 of the slide. There are two major components of our
4 safety review. The first is the staff's safety
5 review of the application and the second is the review
6 by the ACRS, the Advisory Committee on Reactor
7 Safeguards.

8 The dotted line that you see in the
9 middle is the hearing process. The Atomic Energy Act
10 establishes a process for the public to participate
11 in the hearings, particularly in license renewal.

12 And then in the box in the far right is
13 the NRC's decision coming out of the review of the
14 safety and environmental review to extend the
15 operating license for an additional 20 years.

16 Next slide, please.

17 The focus of the safety review is to
18 identify the aging effects that could impair the
19 operation of the systems, structures, and components.

20 Exelon submitted an application to the
21 NRC on July 10, 2018 to extend the operating license
22 for subsequent license renewal. The NRC conducted
23 an acceptance review of the application and
24 determined the acceptability on August 27 of this
25 year.

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1 The NRC divides the safety review into
2 three components or audits. The first one is the
3 operating experience audit reviews that reviews the
4 applicant's operating experience and their corrective
5 actions database, looking for things such as aging
6 effect, aging management activities. We're in the
7 process right now of this operating experience audit.

8 The second section is the in-office
9 review and in-office audit. During this time, the
10 staff goes into greater detail looking at the
11 application and requests additional documents.

12 Then finally is the NRC on-site audit in
13 which the reviewers may actually go to the site and
14 look at additional documents and information. And
15 the staff will document all of this review in its
16 safety evaluation report, SER.

17 The focus of the NRC's review is on the
18 aging effects and the detrimental effects of that.
19 In 2001, Exelon submitted an application for initial
20 license renewal for Peach Bottom. And in 2003, the
21 NRC approved the application for the first license
22 renewal.

23 The principles of license renewal are two
24 and they have not changed between initial review and
25 subsequent license renewal. The first principle is

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1 the regulatory process adequately ensures the plant's
2 current licensing basis and provides and maintains an
3 acceptable level of safety.

4 And the second principle is each plant's
5 current license basis is required to be maintained
6 during the subsequent license renewal period in the
7 same manner and to the same extent as during the
8 initial license renewal.

9 The NRC ensures the adequate protection
10 of public health and safety and the environmental
11 through the regulatory process. This diagram here
12 shows you the different components of the regulatory
13 process. The blue arrows and gray boxes represent
14 what has been in place before license renewal. The
15 red arrow shows what is added as a result of license
16 renewal and that is the aging management activities.
17 The NRC as part of their subsequent license renewal
18 will also evaluate how effective the aging management
19 program has been.

20 The focus of the safety review is to
21 identify aging effects that could impair the ability
22 of the systems, structures, and components within the
23 scope of license renewal. The focus has not changed
24 moving forward from initial license renewal to
25 subsequent license renewal.

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1 Lauren Gibson will now give the
2 presentation on the environmental review.

3 MS. GIBSON: Good evening. Can everyone
4 hear me okay?

5 Good evening. My name is Lauren Gibson.
6 I am one of the environmental project managers who
7 will be working on the Peach Bottom environmental
8 review. The environmental review is performed in
9 accordance with the National Environmental Policy Act
10 of 1969 which you probably know as NEPA. NEPA
11 requires federal agencies to follow a systematic
12 approach in evaluating potential impacts from the
13 proposed action and alternatives to the proposed
14 action.

15 Public participation is an important
16 aspect of the NEPA process. Opportunities for public
17 participation are outlined in green on this slide.
18 The environmental review begins at the scoping
19 process which includes today's public scoping
20 meeting.

21 Scoping is the process by which the NRC
22 staff identifies the specific impacts and significant
23 issues to be considered as we prepare the
24 supplemental environmental impact statement. The
25 NRC staff will consider all of your comments received

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1 today, as well as those we received in writing as we
2 prepare that. The staff will also conduct an
3 independent assessment including an environmental
4 site audit.

5 The NRC staff will publish its findings
6 in a draft environmental impact statement which will
7 be issued for public comment. That public comment
8 period is another opportunity for you after the
9 scoping period ends to participate in the
10 environmental review process. So you have now
11 tonight's scoping meeting and then later you will be
12 able to comment on the draft environmental impact
13 statement.

14 So what is meant by scoping? The NRC
15 staff uses scoping to determine the range of issues
16 and the alternatives to be considered in the
17 environmental impact statement. In addition,
18 scoping comments help identify significant issues
19 that will be analyzed in greater details. Scoping
20 is also intended to ensure that concerns are
21 identified early and properly evaluated throughout
22 the environmental review.

23 You are an important part of the scoping
24 process, so thank you for being here. Because you
25 are more familiar with your community, your comments

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1 will help to facilitate a thorough review. We hope
2 to hear from you, for example, what aspects of your
3 local community we should focus on? What local
4 environmental, social, and economic issues the NRC
5 should examine during our review? What other major
6 projects are in progress in the area, and what
7 reasonable alternatives are most appropriate for the
8 region?

9 Here is a list of the documents that the
10 NRC issues in relation to the scoping process. Note
11 that the first three on the slide have already been
12 issued. They've been done for this application.
13 They relate to this meeting and this scoping process.
14 That's why we're here.

15 The NRC initially issues a notice of
16 intent to prepare the supplemental environmental
17 impact statement and to inform the public about the
18 scoping process. The notice identifies the federal
19 action, comment period, and the method by which
20 comments can be provided. We have copies of that
21 notice at the sign-in table.

22 The NRC also issues letters to federal,
23 state, and tribal government agencies and other
24 interested parties announcing our intent to conduct
25 scoping. In addition, we've issued a press release

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1 and newspaper advertisements to announce this public
2 meeting and the scoping process.

3 At the conclusion of the scoping process,
4 the NRC prepares and issues an environmental scoping
5 summary report that identifies the comments that we
6 received during the scoping period and identifies the
7 significant issues that were identified as a result
8 of the scoping process.

9 Moving on to the environmental review
10 itself. The NRC evaluates the impact from the
11 proposed license renewal for a wide range of
12 environmental resources. In addition to those on the
13 slide, it includes air quality, wetlands, threatened
14 and endangered species, historical and cultural
15 resources, and human health.

16 The NRC staff conducts this review by
17 building upon decades of previous experience
18 analyzing the environmental impacts from power plant
19 operation. For example, in 2013 the NRC staff
20 published or revised generic environmental impact
21 statements which identified 78 environmental impacts
22 due to the operation of nuclear power plants. The
23 NRC staff analyzed the impacts of those 78 issues
24 based on the knowledge that has been gained during 40
25 previous license renewals, as well as new research

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1 findings and public comments.

2 The staff determined that 59 of those
3 environmental issues were generic, meaning the same
4 at all plants. For the other 19 issues, the NRC
5 staff determined that those issues were site
6 specific, meaning that the impact varied depending on
7 the environment surrounding the reactor and the
8 operational condition. Therefore, the analysis for
9 Peach Bottom license renewal will focus on those 19
10 site specific environmental resource issues.

11 The NRC staff has also conducted previous
12 site specific environmental analyses at the Peach
13 Bottom site. For example, in 2003, the staff
14 completed an environmental impact statement for the
15 initial license renewal. The NRC staff will build
16 upon any information in that previously issued
17 statement to conduct this environmental review in an
18 efficient manner.

19 In conducting our environmental review,
20 we will be coordinating with various federal, state,
21 and local officials as well as tribal leaders. This
22 coordination helps to ensure that the local and
23 technical resource specialists are involved. Some
24 of the agencies we are coordinating with include
25 Department of Corrections, National Oceanic and

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1 Atmospheric Administration, the U.S. Environmental
2 Protection Agency, Region III; the Maryland
3 Department of the Environment, the Pennsylvania
4 Department of Environmental Protection, the
5 Pennsylvania State Historic Preservation Office, and
6 the Susquehanna River Basin Commission.

7 Ultimately, the purpose of the
8 environmental review is to determine whether or not
9 the environmental impacts of license renewal would be
10 so great that preserving the option of license
11 renewal for decision makers would become
12 unreasonable. The environmental impact statement
13 will be considered in conjunction with the NRC
14 staff's safety-related reviews that Bennett discussed
15 earlier today in recommending to the Commission
16 whether or not to review the Peach Bottom operating
17 license.

18 In summary, these are the factors that
19 will be considered by the Commission in deciding
20 whether or not to renew the license. Our goal is to
21 complete the license renewal review and reach a
22 decision on renewing the licenses in 18 months from
23 the time that the application was accepted. The
24 schedule can be extended to accommodate a hearing if
25 one is granted.

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1 Please note if you would like to receive
2 a CD or a hard copy of the draft or final
3 environmental impact statement that we will be
4 developing, please fill out a blue card at that back
5 table in the hallway. Otherwise, you will be able
6 to find those documents on our website that I will
7 show on my concluding slide when they are available.

8 This slide shows important milestones for
9 the safety and environmental review process. It is
10 important to note that future dates are tentative.
11 Please note that the safety evaluation report is a
12 publicly-available report that we will issue
13 documenting our results of the safety review.

14 Right below it, you'll see the ACRS.
15 That is the Advisory Committee on Reactor Safeguards.
16 Their meetings are open to the public and they are
17 held at our headquarters in Rockville, Maryland.

18 This slide has information on how to
19 submit comments after this meeting concludes.
20 Comments will be accepted through October 10th and
21 can be submitted by mail or through the
22 regulations.gov website.

23 In addition, you can provide any of us
24 NRC staff members here tonight with any written
25 comments that you wish to submit.

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1 Here is some further information for you.
2 The first item is the general website that you can go
3 to learn more about nuclear power plant license
4 renewal in general.

5 The second item on this slide provides a
6 website with information regarding the Peach Bottom
7 subsequent license renewal review. This website also
8 provides access to their subsequent license renewal
9 application which we have a hard copy here to review
10 if you'd like to.

11 As shown in the third item on the slide,
12 the application is also available at the Whiteford
13 Branch of the Harford County Public Library.

14 This concludes the staff's formal
15 presentation. If you would like additional
16 information, you can ask David or Bennett whose
17 contact information is on the slide.

18 I'll now turn the meeting back over to
19 Mr. Klukan for the question and answer portion on the
20 presentations.

21 MR. KLUKAN: I'm going to switch to this
22 microphone. If you could just advance it one slide
23 for me. Thank you. Okay, great.

24 So as I noted -- again, good evening
25 again. Can you all hear me okay? I'll be moving

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1 around more, so I thought I'd use this one.

2 So before we get started with the actual
3 comment portion of the meeting, as I noted at the
4 outset, we wanted to give people -- reserve a small
5 amount of time in case anyone had any questions about
6 what you just saw in those two presentations or about
7 the license renewal process itself.

8 And again, if you have questions about
9 the contents of Exelon's application or questions
10 about environmental effects, I would ask that you
11 please leave those to the public comment portion of
12 the meeting. Right now, I'm just looking for if you
13 have any questions about the process or why we're
14 here tonight essentially. And I will bring the
15 microphone to you for this portion.

16 MR. GUNTER: Thank you. Paul Gunter,
17 Beyond Nuclear, Takoma Park, Maryland.

18 So can you give me an overview of where
19 the public gets to review the safety portion in a
20 meeting format like this?

21 MR. KLUKAN: Sure. Who from the staff
22 would like to cover this one? All right.

23 MR. OESTERLE: Thank you. My name is
24 Eric Oesterle. I'm the chief of the Projects
25 Licensing Branch for License Renewal. And if you

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1 could back up the slide -- go forward again. Right
2 there. Thank you.

3 So the question again is where in the
4 process does the public get to review the safety
5 review in this format.

6 MR. GUNTER: Public format like this,
7 yes.

8 MR. OESTERLE: So there is no public
9 format like this to provide comments on the safety
10 review or comments on what the scope of the safety
11 review should be. The scope of the safety review is
12 actually defined by the regulations in Part 54. The
13 opportunity for the public to provide comments on the
14 safety review is right here when the ACRS meets,
15 either the subcommittee or the full committee. There
16 is an opportunity there for the public to submit
17 comments on the safety evaluation report.

18 MR. GUNTER: You can hear me without
19 this, but can you explain why you differentiate
20 between the safety review process and the public
21 format in the community for the environmental review?
22 You bring it to the community for the environmental
23 review, but you've got to go down to Washington, D.C.
24 or I should say Rockville, Maryland where the ACRS
25 meetings are. I'm just wondering what differentiates

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1 between the two for your process.

2 MR. OESTERLE: Thanks. That's a good
3 question. I would say one of the differentiators is
4 that the environmental review is an independent
5 review that the NRC does and it's driven by the
6 requirements in NEPA, so it's an action that the NRC
7 needs to take any time there's a major federal action.
8 So that's an action on the NRC.

9 All of the information that the NRC may
10 look at as far as doing the environmental review is
11 not limited to the environmental report that the
12 applicant submits with their application. They also
13 will do their own independent evaluation, look at
14 independent sources.

15 The information, as far as the safety
16 review goes, is completely contained within the
17 subsequent license renewal application or additional
18 documents that the applicant may submit on the docket
19 for the staff to review.

20 As far as folks needing to come down to
21 Washington, D.C. to come to the ACRS meeting, you
22 don't have to do that. You can email any comments.
23 You can call it in. You don't have to appear in
24 person.

25 MR. GUNTER: Thank you.

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1 MR. HEWITT: Good evening. I'm Jyuji
2 Hewitt, J-Y-U-J-I, H-E-W-I-T-T. I'm just a member
3 of the public. Is there an opportunity for us to see
4 the comments that have been submitted so that it may
5 generate further comments or perhaps if a comment
6 that has been submitted didn't hit exactly what maybe
7 the concern would be environmentally, it may spur
8 further questions or other comments?

9 MR. KLUKAN: Thanks for your question.

10 MR. BEASLEY: This is Ben Beasley. I'm
11 the Chief of the Environmental Review Branch and as
12 was mentioned in the slide, one of the documents from
13 the scoping process is a scoping summary report that
14 does get issued prior to the draft environmental
15 impact statement getting issued, so you can see the
16 questions and then the responses will -- it's not
17 directly responses to the questions or to the
18 comments, but what we're looking for is what we need
19 to include in our review. And so we might point you
20 to a section of the environmental impact statement
21 where we have covered that topic. And so then when
22 the draft environmental impact statement comes out,
23 you can see how it's addressed there in the EIS. And
24 then also the scoping, all of the comments get
25 reproduced in Appendix A of the environmental impact

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1 statement. And you do have opportunity to comment
2 on the draft environmental impact statement so if
3 there was something that wasn't addressed the way you
4 expected it or we didn't get the topic quite right,
5 then you can make a comment on the draft environmental
6 impact statement.

7 MR. KLUKAN: Thank you. Any more on the
8 process or are there any more questions? Thank you
9 to both of you for asking those.

10 We are now going to move on to the actual
11 public comment portion of the meeting tonight. So
12 at the registration table there are these little
13 yellow cards. If you would like to speak tonight and
14 have not already done so, please fill out one of
15 these. So right now I have three cards from three
16 different individuals who have asked or requested to
17 submit public comments tonight.

18 Is there anyone else who has not yet
19 submitted a yellow card who thinks he or she may want
20 to speak tonight? You can wait until later after you
21 hear what they have to say, but what I'm trying to do
22 is just to budget my time for the meeting of how much
23 time to allot to each speaker.

24 So does anyone else think they might want
25 to submit a public comment tonight, who has not yet

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1 filled out a yellow card?

2 All right, so I'm going to give each
3 individual eight minutes. I will call your name.
4 When I call your name, please come up to the
5 microphone around the side there just so you don't
6 blind yourself or trip over the card in the middle.
7 I have a little bell here just to make it fair. When
8 you have one minute remaining, you get one ding.
9 When you're done, two. Very efficient.

10 So with that said, one further reminder
11 is that when you do get up to the microphone, please
12 state your name, please spell your name, even if you
13 think your name is simple. Please spell your name.
14 I like everyone just to spell their name for the sake
15 of the court reporter and then please provide any
16 affiliations, if any, that you would like to have
17 recorded as part of the record.

18 So with that, we'll start with Mr. Paul
19 Gunter.

20 MR. GUNTER: Thank you. My name is Paul
21 Gunter. P-A-U-L, G-U-N-T-E-R. No umlaut. I'm with
22 a group called Beyond Nuclear and we're a public
23 interest group that is in Takoma Park, Maryland.

24 The purpose of being here tonight is to
25 address some concerns that we have about the

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1 subsequent license renewal process. Going back to
2 the question that I originally asked, you know, the
3 reason I asked about differentiating between material
4 -- the issue of safety and environmental consequences
5 is because the two are inextricably linked. We
6 believe that the safety issues should be presented in
7 the community although that is an opportunity to meet
8 and greet and we don't exactly understand why the
9 safety portion has been relegated to essentially
10 blind communication.

11 And the reason is that safety obviously
12 is related to environmental consequence. Peach
13 Bottom, for example, has miles of buried pipe that
14 much of it is original construction with when the
15 plant was built. This pipe has been corroding, both
16 from the outside wall and eroding from the inside and
17 Peach Bottom has had a series of leaks of radioactive
18 effluent into groundwater, so here you have the
19 consequence of a material condition of the plant that
20 has resulted in an environmental consequence.

21 So again, the whole idea of material
22 performance into the subsequent license renewal
23 process has a direct bearing on the environmental
24 consequence to this community. And it goes beyond
25 just buried pipe. We're talking about the material

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1 condition of concrete structures of the performance
2 of electrical wiring and that could be submerged, but
3 also subject to heat and all kinds of degradation.

4 In fact, there are about now 16 different
5 known degradation mechanisms that are ongoing in
6 varying grades, some severe, with regard to like
7 embrittlement of the reactor pressure vessel, stress
8 corrosion cracking of the -- of weld material. Any
9 of these failures, just like those pipes that are
10 buried under the Peach Bottom plant, should they fail
11 in their performance, they will have environmental
12 consequence.

13 So to make a long story short, what we
14 see is essentially a failure of the operator, in this
15 case Exelon Nuclear, and the regulatory agency, the
16 U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission, to make this link
17 in the license renewal process for the 60- to 80-year
18 extension. And particularly by missing the
19 opportunity to do the material analysis of the Peach
20 Bottom plant using other reactor designs that Exelon
21 is operating or is now in the process of
22 decommissioning actually, where they could evaluate
23 the material condition of Peach Bottom to sort of
24 benchmark it with the material condition of a closed
25 nuclear power plant.

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1 So on September 17th of this year, Exelon
2 permanently closed the Oyster Creek Nuclear Power
3 Station in Lacey Township, New Jersey. However, both
4 the NRC and Exelon have basically stated that they
5 are not interested in assessing the material
6 condition post-operation for Oyster Creek and relate
7 that condition to Peach Bottom's current condition.
8 And they're only a couple years apart. Oyster Creek
9 came on line in 1969 and Peach Bottom in the early
10 70s.

11 And so it's curious that the industry and
12 the Agency are missing an opportunity to use the
13 material assessment of metals, of electrical cable,
14 of concrete, of piping to assess the material
15 condition of Peach Bottom into this projected license
16 renewal period which again is it's going to be
17 extensive.

18 Why not? Why not take a peek at the
19 embrittlement of the welds in Oyster Creek in order
20 to ascertain the material condition of Peach Bottom
21 in this 60- to 80-year license period.

22 And in fact, what is of more concern is
23 that the national labs, and even members of the U.S.
24 Nuclear Regulatory Commission themselves in the
25 Office of Research, have been requesting this

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1 material, these archived samples taken from closed
2 reactors to then make age management program
3 assessments for license renewal.

4 In fact, the Office of Research in a 2015
5 PowerPoint that we're familiar with, as well as a
6 March 2018 poster session that was -- we saw at the
7 annual Regulatory Information Conference for the NRC,
8 they're all requesting that materials be harvested
9 from these closed reactors like Oyster Creek which is
10 the property, still the property of Exelon Nuclear,
11 and to do laboratory assessments of metals, of
12 concrete, of electrical cable, and their performance
13 into the -- projected into the license renewal period
14 for Peach Bottom Nuclear Power Station.

15 Let me just read to you one of those
16 national laboratory remarks. This one is from
17 Pacific Northwest National Laboratory. This is from
18 a 2017 report. So they conclude that a post-shutdown
19 autopsy, as we call them, are necessary for
20 "reasonable assurance that systems, structures, and
21 components are able to meet their safety functions.
22 Many of the remaining questions regarding the
23 degradation of material which will likely require a
24 combination of laboratory studies, as well as other
25 research conducted on materials sampled from plants,

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1 decommissioned or operating." The laboratory
2 reiterates "where available, benchmarking can be
3 performed using surveillance specimens. In most
4 cases, however, benchmarking of laboratory tests will
5 require harvesting materials from reactors."

6 So in the absence of harvesting those
7 materials from Exelon's closed reactor to its
8 operating reactor in the projected time frame,
9 they're ignoring not only a safety condition, but a
10 condition that may very well have significant
11 environmental consequences.

12 MR. KLUKAN: Thank you very much. All
13 right, next up we have Mr. Ernest Guyll. Normally,
14 I call people up so they can queue, but it's a narrow
15 space up here and we only have three people. So
16 anyway, whenever you're ready. And again, if you
17 could state your name one more time and then just
18 spell it for our court reporter, please.

19 MR. GUILL: My name is Ernest Eric Guyll,
20 E-R-N-E-S-T, that's my first name. Eric is my middle
21 name, E-R-I-C. My last name is Guyll, G-U-Y-L-L.

22 I'm in opposition to extending the
23 license. I think we need an independent review board
24 because the NRC has a vested interest in seeing that
25 this plant goes on. If there aren't any nuclear

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1 power plants, who needs the NRC? So I think we need
2 to have somebody like Congress, perhaps the state
3 legislatures of Maryland and Pennsylvania make the
4 decision and vote on whether to keep this plant open
5 or not.

6 I'm concerned about the dry cask storage,
7 how much more space is needed. I think there were
8 questions about the degrading of the concrete and
9 we're worried about that. I'd like to know the
10 radioactive half-life of the material that's being
11 stored in these casks. It's on site. It's here.

12 You can't see into the future. There was
13 a few years ago some workers received a blast of
14 radiation. Nobody knew it was going to happen. Of
15 course, you didn't know. You wouldn't have let it
16 happen. But this is the thing I'm concerned about.
17 I'm not concerned about what you know. I'm concerned
18 about what we don't know is going to happen. And
19 we're just reacting to okay, this happened. Now we
20 can fix it. Well, I don't want something really bad
21 to happen and then it goes beyond fixing.

22 And I've asked in the past the greatest
23 number on the Richter scale that this plant can
24 withstand in an earthquake and I understand in other
25 formulas used other than Richter scale. But I'd like

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1 to see it in Richter scale because most lay people
2 like myself, I'm not a scientist, but I'd like to
3 know, what is the highest on the Richter scale that
4 this plant can withstand? And we have to think about
5 that because a lot of times places like this where
6 there's very few earthquakes, there will sometimes be
7 a really gigantic earthquake. We don't know. We've
8 only been here -- when I say we, the Europeans have
9 only been here maybe 300, 400 years which is a very
10 small time geologically.

11 How high does the river have to rise
12 before the plant is threatened? What's the number of
13 feet it has to rise? I think that's pretty simple.
14 And I'd like to get these questions answered. I
15 don't want a book. Just give me okay, this many
16 feet. This on the Richter scale.

17 I'm concerned about the tritium leakage
18 seeping into the ground. I think there was mention
19 made of the pipes degrading. How much more can this
20 area take?

21 I'd like to have radiation air samples
22 taken around the plant. I'd like to see them printed
23 in the newspaper. I know radiation is a very random
24 thing, but we don't have any benchmark as public
25 citizens to say oh, it's okay, this was a radiation

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1 level last week. We don't have that. I have a
2 radiation monitor at home I use, so I can check the
3 radiation, at least at my house. But I'd like to
4 have that around the plant. We used to have monitors
5 around the plant.

6 I'd also like to see a 50-mile radius
7 evacuation plan, because every time there's a major
8 accident people are told 50 miles they have to get
9 away, anyone within 50 miles. But the NRC is only
10 doing 20 or 25 miles. They don't go to 50 miles.
11 But you go to 50 miles, there's a big accident and
12 you should have a 50-mile radius evacuation plan.
13 What are the people in Baltimore going to do? People
14 in Philadelphia? People within the 50-mile radius
15 that evacuate in a major emergency.

16 I'll go back a little bit. I forgot to
17 tell you who I am or my relationship here. I live
18 eight miles due east of here by air. I live in
19 Britain Township in Lancaster County. I used to be
20 a member of the Peach Bottom Alliance, but I don't
21 think that organization exists any more. That's it.

22 MR. KLUKAN: Thank you very much for your
23 comments.

24 Okay, next up we have Bruce L. Clark.

25 MR. CLARK: Good evening. My name is

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1 Bruce Clark, B-R-U-C-E, C-L-A-R-K.

2 I basically came here this evening to try
3 to understand the process and perhaps feelings that
4 some people have. I have a background in Penn State
5 industrial engineering, a master's in management. I
6 chair my own consulting group, but I'm working with
7 the Pennsylvania Nuclear Energy Caucus. That's
8 bicameral, bipartisan, chaired by one of our state
9 senators. And what we're looking at is trying to
10 keep nuclear as one of our options.

11 Right now, we're in a position where the
12 price of gas, natural gas, for fueling generation is
13 so low that it's hard for us to really get a contract
14 for say the output of TMI. So we're operating at a
15 loss. So as a state, we need to look at okay, what
16 do we do for the future?

17 So my interest here is well, what are we
18 looking at for the future? Because it's not just
19 keeping these plants on for another year, but long
20 term, if they're viable.

21 Now I'll say one thing for Peach Bottom,
22 one -- I'll say two. One, I worked there. I had a
23 senior license on the plant as a staff member, so I
24 have some history and also with the industry that all
25 of the plants are different, different designs,

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1 different manufacturers, so you can't really say that
2 Oyster Creek is the same as Peach Bottom. Each one
3 has to be looked at individually.

4 And what we want to do at the state level
5 is look at okay, what is really viable for the nuclear
6 element because right now it's one of those that has
7 a consistent output 24 hours a day. It's paid for.
8 It's only going to cost what it's going to cost right
9 now.

10 Environmentally, it has very little
11 impact. Maybe there's going to be some from
12 radiation. We'll have to work on that and see how
13 that works out. Like I said, the cost of an alternate
14 fuel being gas and the safety of that because that's
15 coming through pipelines and loss of a pipeline can
16 lose something like New York.

17 There was a fourth issue. The older I
18 get, the more I forget things.

19 Okay, but basically, where are we going
20 with this? And you mentioned that you want more
21 public input and that's partly to the NRC saying okay,
22 how can we structure the input or structure the medium
23 so that the public knows what we know and can respond
24 to what we know as the NRC, so you're not left out of
25 the process. Because part of what happens here, you

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1 talk about the socio-environment. All of our plants
2 are in a society and you're living nearby. So we
3 have to be aware of that.

4 You need to have the opportunity to say,
5 hey, I'm willing to have higher prices just to not
6 have nuclear. What's going to happen with things
7 like gas and you're going to see it very soon. We're
8 going to be taxing that as it comes out of the ground
9 so the price of gas is going to go up. So that's
10 going to make nuclear more affordable.

11 I'm open to questions if somebody wants
12 to say or ask what we're doing at the state level,
13 because we're just starting with this process of
14 looking at viability. And what prompted us was TMI
15 Unit 1 and Beaver Valley 1 and 2 that are looking at
16 an impending shutdown.

17 Any questions, comments? Thank you.

18 MR. KLUKAN: Thank you very much. So
19 it's 6:53. We're scheduled -- at least the time we
20 allotted for this is longer. Again, you have an
21 opportunity right now if you would like to make a
22 public comment. You don't have to fill out a yellow
23 card. You can just go to the microphone.

24 Is there anyone who has not yet commented
25 like to make a comment this evening? Okay.

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1 Has anyone who has already made a comment
2 of the three, like to -- so I will give you a little
3 more time to go up there. How about give you what do
4 you say, five, six minutes. Does that sound fair?
5 All right. Thank you.

6 MR. GUNTER: Again, my name is Paul
7 Gunter. P-A-U-L, G-U-N-T-E-R. I'm with Beyond
8 Nuclear. And we're out at Takoma Park, Maryland.

9 I think I would like to quickly respond
10 that Oyster Creek is a General Electric Mark 1 boiling
11 water reactor. It's the first one. Peach Bottom is
12 a General Electric boiling water reactor, Mark 1.
13 And they are similar in materials. I don't want to
14 get into a dialogue on this, but that's not for me.

15 What I'm representing here is the view of
16 the NRC Office of Research. There's the similarity
17 of materials, the similarity of design, the
18 similarity of containment, the similarity of cooling.
19 They're on the order of a Fukushima-style reactor.
20 In fact, Fukushima Daiichi Unit 1 is almost identical
21 to Oyster Creek. So the similarities and materials
22 and degradations are identical in that respect.

23 But you know, on a broader environmental
24 impact, another concern is that -- and here again
25 where the industry and the regulator have let us down

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1 is that in 2010, the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory
2 Commission set out to do public health studies around
3 operating nuclear power stations, basically
4 predicated on the license renewal process.

5 The idea of cancer around nuclear power
6 stations has been prevalent all across the country.
7 In 1990, the Massachusetts Department of Public
8 Health issued a study that found a four-fold increase
9 in a rare adult leukemia around the Pilgrim Nuclear
10 Power Station in the five communities that were
11 closest to the Pilgrim Nuclear Power Station. And so
12 that study went through a peer review. It's been
13 published and republished and it has raised loads of
14 questions about the incidence of cancer clusters and
15 concerns that are directly related to the proximity
16 and duration of residency to operating nuclear power
17 stations. And that's still relevant for the Peach
18 Bottom nuclear power plant as they now seek to extend
19 their operation out to a total of 80 years.

20 So the NRC did go about contracting with
21 the National Academy of Sciences in 2010. NAS started
22 its process to do a pilot. It was a two-phase
23 program. And to the disappointment of all of us who
24 were following this along, the NRC basically scuttled
25 that study in 2015, based on the fact that they

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1 thought that the NAS projection that it would take
2 three years and \$8 million to do a cancer study around
3 eight pilot projects in the United States was not
4 worthy of their time and effort and money. That
5 speaks volumes to a production agenda, not a public
6 health and safety agenda.

7 And we're still trying to revive the NAS
8 effort to look at cancers around nuclear power
9 stations like the Department of Public Health in the
10 State of Massachusetts identified in a peer-reviewed
11 study.

12 In fact, it's quite apparent that the NRC
13 claims to protect public health, but its radiation
14 exposure standards fail to account for things like
15 impacts on the placenta, impacts on fetal blood
16 forming cells, impacts on fetal and embryonic organs,
17 estrogenic impacts, disproportioned impacts on women,
18 genetic impacts past the second generation,
19 cumulative damage of repeated radiation exposure.
20 These are not incorporated -- and this is exactly
21 what the National Academy of Sciences was setting out
22 to do in laying out two methodologies for epidemiology
23 and the effect of living downwind, downstream, in
24 proximity to operating nuclear power stations.

25 Let me just say that there's no excuse

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1 for the NRC to scuttle that study and in fact, the
2 issue clearly demonstrates another example of where
3 the Agency and the industry have colluded to put the
4 cart before the horse, just as we should be requiring
5 material samples from decommissioned nuclear power
6 stations rather than bury these bodies whole without
7 an autopsy. That is just as unjustified as going
8 forward with extending reactor operating license out
9 to 80 years without doing cancer studies around the
10 plants that have been operating since the 1960s.
11 Thank you.

12 MR. KLUKAN: Thank you very much. I'll
13 ask one more time before I close out the meeting. Is
14 there anyone who has not yet made a comment who would
15 like to do so this evening? Now is your chance.
16 Going once, going twice. All right.

17 That concludes -- we have one. Please.

18 MR. CLARK: I'd like to be able to
19 respond to everything you've said, but it really
20 leaves me wondering, okay, we've come this far.
21 We've survived this far. We don't see a large
22 negative impact from the power plants. What can we
23 really do as a society to decide where we go from
24 here? And you're saying we should put more money
25 into research. I'm looking at you, right?

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1 MR. GUNTER: I'm not going to dialogue
2 with you. It's your turn.

3 MR. KLUKAN: As interesting as this
4 conversation might turn out to be, unfortunately,
5 that's not the way the meeting is structured. I
6 encourage you since it does look like we will have
7 time after the meeting to have a dialogue. Yes,
8 exactly. Whatever, I'm not telling you to drink.
9 That would be inappropriate.

10 So please feel free to spend your time
11 responding to his comments, but in more of a
12 rhetorical way that he can't answer you back.

13 MR. CLARK: I've done my one-sided
14 comments. Thank you.

15 MR. KLUKAN: Thank you very much. With
16 that, we're going to close out the meeting this
17 evening. If you would like to -- just a couple
18 reminders and I'm going to work my way back over to
19 the actual podium instead of standing in this corner
20 here.

21 If you'd like to receive a CD copy or a
22 hard copy of the draft and final environmental impact
23 statements as Lauren mentioned earlier -- I'll shut
24 this one off and work off of this one -- please fill
25 out one of the blue cards on the table back there.

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1 One is being held up right now. Otherwise, the draft
2 and final environmental impact statement will be
3 available at the websites that were part of the
4 display or part of the presentation again, which is
5 also -- copies of which are also located on that
6 table.

7 Finally, as I noted earlier, there are
8 feedback forms also on that table. It takes just a
9 couple minutes to fill one of them out. Please do
10 so. It really, really, really does help us improve
11 the quality and content of these meetings moving
12 forward. You can drop it in the mail. Its postage
13 is already paid or you can just give it back to an
14 NRC staff member you see here this evening.

15 And with that, I'd like to thank you for
16 attending this evening and I will ask Joe Donoghue,
17 our senior NRC staff member to close out the meeting
18 for us. Thank you very much again.

19 MR. DONOGHUE: Thank you, Brett. I want
20 to thank members of representatives from the State of
21 Pennsylvania and Maryland for being here, of course,
22 interested members of the public living in the area
23 of the plant, also representatives of interest groups
24 that we heard from today and for your very thoughtful
25 comments that you made tonight.

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1 It's obviously that you care deeply about
2 the issues that the NRC is reviewing in this
3 subsequent license renewal review effort and all of
4 your comments, this is why we were recording it, will
5 be considered as part of this review, seriously
6 considered.

7 We're going to stay -- I'm committing the
8 NRC staff to stay here for the noticed time that we
9 planned to stay here for this meeting, so you're
10 welcome to -- basically, we'll continue the open house
11 that we started the evening with if you have other
12 questions that you'd like to ask us, about our
13 process, about the SLR review, the subsequent license
14 renewal review that we plan to conduct.

15 And with that, I'll wish you a safe ride
16 home or to your destination, and thank you for
17 participating.

18 (Whereupon, the above-entitled matter
19 went off the record at 7:05 p.m.)