

U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission Public Meeting Summary

Title: Public Scoping Meeting for the Environmental Review of the Subsequent License Renewal Application for Point Beach Nuclear Plant, Unit Nos. 1 and 2

Meeting Identifier: 20210090

Date of Meetings: Wednesday, February 17, 2021

Location: Webinar

Type of Meeting: Category 3

Purpose of the Meeting(s):

To provide an overview of the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission's (NRC's) process to review the subsequent license renewal application for Point Beach Nuclear Plant, Unit Nos. 1 and 2 (Point Beach) and solicit public comments on the scope of the environmental review.

General Details:

The NRC held a public scoping meeting as part of the Point Beach Subsequent License Renewal environmental review. The meeting started at 2:00 p.m. EST (1:00 p.m. CST) and ended at approximately 4:00 p.m. (3 p.m. CST). The meeting was facilitated by Ms. Sheila Ray, an NRC in-house facilitator. The meeting began with a review of meeting ground rules and an introduction of the NRC staff, followed by a presentation by the NRC staff on the license renewal safety review process and the license renewal environmental review process. The presentations emphasized that comments were welcome to help focus the environmental review. There was an opportunity for attendees to ask questions about the NRC staff's presentation followed by an opportunity for members of the public to provide oral comments on the scope of the environmental review to be conducted.

Approximately 100 people (this number includes the NRC staff) attended the meeting. The participants included members of the NRC staff, members of the public, NextEra Energy Point Beach, LLC representatives, state and local government officials, members of public advocacy organizations, and the news media.

Summary of Presentation:

The NRC staff reviewed the Principles of License Renewal Safety Reviews, which have not changed with the transition from initial license renewal (40 to 60 years) to subsequent license renewal (60 to 80 years).

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

- Each plant's current licensing basis is required to be maintained during the renewal term in the same manner and to the same extent as during the original license term.

Therefore, the focus of the safety review is to identify aging effects that could impair the ability of systems, structures, and components within the scope of license renewal to perform their intended functions, and to demonstrate that these aging effects will be adequately managed during the period of extended operation. The NRC staff stressed that this focus has not changed with the transition from initial license renewal to subsequent license renewal. A single, complete Safety Evaluation Report will be issued prior to the NRC staff meeting with the Advisory Committee on Reactor Safeguards' Subcommittee on Plant License Renewal.

Regarding the environmental review, the NRC staff explained that it conducts the environmental review in accordance with the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (NEPA). NEPA requires federal agencies to follow a systematic approach in evaluating the potential impacts from the proposed action and alternatives to the proposed action. The environmental review begins with the scoping process. Scoping is the process by which the NRC staff identifies the specific impacts and significant issues to be considered within the draft Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) and public participation is an important aspect of scoping. The NRC staff considers all scoping comments provided during the public meeting, as well as written comments received during the scoping period in preparing the draft EIS. At the conclusion of the scoping process, NRC will prepare and issue an Environmental Scoping Summary Report that describes comments received during the scoping period and includes significant issues identified as a result of the scoping process.

The NRC staff further explained that it also conducts an independent assessment, including an environmental site audit and documents its findings within the draft EIS. The draft EIS will be issued for public comment and the staff will consider these comments in preparing the final EIS. In conducting our environmental review, the NRC staff will be coordinating with other Federal, State, and local agencies, as well as tribal leaders to ensure that local technical resource specialists are involved in the review. Within the EIS, the NRC evaluates impacts from the proposed license renewal for a wide range of environmental resources, such as air quality, human health, wetlands, and threatened and endangered species. Ultimately, the purpose of the environmental review is to determine whether or not the environmental impacts of license renewal could be so great that preserving the option of license renewal for decision makers would become unreasonable.

The staff informed the attendees that the EIS will be considered in conjunction with the NRC staff's safety review in recommending to the Commission whether to renew the Point Beach operating license.

The staff ended the meeting by stressing that the closing date for submitting scoping comments is March 3, 2021. In addition to providing comments at the meeting, comments can be: (1) mailed to Office of Administration Mailstop TWFN7A60M, U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission, Washington, DC 20555-0001; or (2) submitted online using the Federal Rulemaking website at [regulations.gov](https://www.regulations.gov) (Docket ID: NRC-2020-0277). The staff stressed that comments will not be edited to remove any identifying or contact information, so do not include any information in comments that you do not want publicly disclosed.

Public Participation Themes:

There were numerous comments provided during the public meeting. Themes for the comments included (a) concerns regarding aging management programs of structures and components, (b) concerns related to the need for site specific review in addition to the Generic Environmental Impact Statement, (c) concerns related to environmental impacts associated with refurbishment activities, (d) concerns related to environmental impacts associated with severe accidents, (e) recognitions of Point Beach as a source of positive socioeconomic impacts to the local areas, (f) concerns related to the safety of spent nuclear fuel storage, (g) concerns related to replacement power alternatives in the range of reasonable alternatives considered for review, and (f) concerns associated with a technical understanding of aging structures and components as relate to decommissioning.

A complete accounting of the comments provided can be found in the meeting transcript which is available in the NRC's Agencywide Documents Access and Management System (ADAMS) public electronic reading room under the accession numbers listed below, <http://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/adams.html>.

Action Items/Next Steps:

The NRC staff will address any comments received during the scoping period as part of the license renewal review for Point Beach. The NRC staff will develop and publish a draft Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement (SEIS) to NUREG-1437, "Generic Environmental Impact Statement for License Renewal of Nuclear Plants," which will be distributed for public comment. The NRC staff's responses to the comments received during the scoping period and received on the draft SEIS will be included in Appendix A of the SEIS. Concurrently, the NRC staff will also be preparing a safety evaluation report which documents the staff's independent safety evaluation.

Attachments:

- List of Attendees
- Meeting description and agenda – ADAMS Accession No. [ML21034A458](#)
- NRC staff presentation – ADAMS Accession No. [ML21042B945](#)
- Meeting transcript – ADAMS Accession No. [ML21062A192](#)

**U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission Public Scoping Meeting
for the Environmental Review of the Subsequent License Renewal Application
for Point Beach Nuclear Plant, Unit Nos. 1 and 2**

**LIST OF ATTENDEES
PUBLIC SCOPING MEETING FOR THE ENVIRONMENTAL REVIEW OF THE SUBSEQUENT
LICENSE RENEWAL APPLICATION FOR POINT BEACH NUCLEAR PLANT, UNIT NOS.1
AND 2
February 17, 2021**

<u>NAME</u>	<u>AFFILIATION</u>
Bill Rogers	U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC)
Briana Grange	NRC
Caroline Hsu	NRC
Dan Barnhurst	NRC
Jeffrey Rickoff	NRC
Kevin Coyne	NRC
Kevin Folk	NRC
Lauren Gibson	NRC
Lois James	NRC
Nancy Martinez	NRC
Phyllis Clark	NRC
Robert Elliott	NRC
Scott Burnell	NRC
Sheila Ray	NRC
Stacey Imboden	NRC
Victoria Mitlyng	NRC
Neal R Gross	NRC
Donald Palmrose	NRC
Daniel Barnhurst	NRC
Anna Bradford	NRC
Jeff Rikhoff	NRC
Lifeng Guo	NRC
Marieliez Johnson	NRC
Robert Hoffman	NRC
Rodriguez Hector	NRC
Tim Cran	NRC
Ace Hoffman	Citizen
Alfred Meyer	Physicians for Social Responsibility
Alison Pryor	Troutman Pepper
Amit	Comanche Peak
Amy Schulz	Physicians for Social Responsibility Wisconsin
Andrew Wadtrey	NextEra Energy
Angela Talbert	Concerned Citizen

<u>NAME</u>	<u>AFFILIATION</u>
Ann Behrmann	Physicians for Social Responsibility Wisconsin
Ann Frisch	Physicians for Social Responsibility
Arun Kapur	Duke Energy
Barbara Warren	None
Bill Maher	Nxtera Energy
Blankman	Wisconsin
Brenda Sherwinsky	Point Beach Nuclear Plant
Carol Gilbert	Nuke Watch
Chris Hubbuch	Wisconsin State Journal
Chris Klopp	Rate Payer
Christina Mercier	Citizen
Chuck Quirnbach	WUWM Radio
Clay Turnbull	New England Coalition on Nuclear Pollution
Connie Cline	Ohio Ciera Club
Danielle Kaeding	Wisconsin Public Radio
David Kraft	Nuclear Energy Information Service Chicago
David Monsees	Alliance for Nuclear Accountability
Eric Schultz	Next Era Energy
Ethyl Rivera	Beyond Nuclear
Gerry Lodgey	Attorney
Hanna Mortenson	PSR WI
James Wicks	Enercon Project Manager
Jan Boudardt	NEIS
Jessica Madoff	Next Era Energy
Joann Mishiura	Private Citizen
John	None
John Duffin	Citizen
Joni Arends	Concerned Citizens for Nuclear Safety
Julie Boeck	Nexpera Energy
Keith Miller	Dominion Energy
Kelly Lundeen	Nuke Watch
Kevin Kamps	Beyond Nuclear / Don't Waste Michigan
Lance Green	Private Citizen
Linda Lewison	Sierra Club Nuclear Free Campaign
Lisa Matise	Detratech
Marie Luna	Concerned Citizen
Mary Hanson	Private Citizen
Mary Tano	NPS
Matthew McMullan	Court Report
Michael Keegan	Don't Waste Michigan
Michael Strobe	Site Vice President at the Point Beach Nuclear Power Plant
Mike Goodman	None

<u>NAME</u>	<u>AFFILIATION</u>
Mitchell Maricque	None
Nicole Miller	Next Era Energy Resources
Patricia Walter	Nuclear Education and Information Service
Paul Berland	Environment Matters
Paula Rogge	Physicians for Social Responsibility Wisconsin
Peter Robbins	Water Power and Lights
Philip Anderson	Sierra Club
Rachel Turney Work	Enercon
Randy Richards	Point Beach Nuclear Plant
Raymond Hardy	Private Citizen
Rich Griffin	Next Era Energy
Richard Orthen	Next Era Energy
Sara Dussich	NEIS Energy Resources
Shahla Werner	Private Citizen
Sharon Richey	Resident
Sharon Richie	Fort Worth Resident
Sherrie Wiegand	Local Resident
Steve Franzone	Next Era Energy
Steven Hammerich	NEIS
Susan Michetti	Individual
Tom Soevonic	Enercon
Victor McManemy	Citizens for Alternatives to Chemical Contamination