



NRC NEWS

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NRC Seeks Comment on Draft Environmental Impact Statement for Kairos “Hermes” Test Reactor Construction Permit

Nuclear Regulatory Commission staff is seeking the public’s views regarding the agency’s [draft Environmental Impact Statement](#) on Kairos Power’s application for a permit to build a test version of the company’s advanced reactor design, called “Hermes,” in Oak Ridge, Tennessee. The NRC is interested in comments on the statement’s draft conclusions regarding the environmental impacts of the proposed action.

NRC staff will consider written comments on the draft supplemental EIS until Dec. 6, following the publication of a [notice](#) in the Federal Register. Comments can be submitted via email to KairosHermes-CPEIS@nrc.gov or via the [regulations.gov](https://www.regulations.gov) website (include Docket ID NRC-2021-0193 in website comments). Comments can also be submitted by traditional mail to Office of Administration, Mail Stop: TWFN-7-A60M, ATTN: Program Management, Announcements and Editing Staff, U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission, Washington, DC 20555-0001.

The staff will also hold a public meeting Nov. 16, including a webinar and teleconference, regarding the draft EIS. The meeting, to be held at the Hilton DoubleTree, 215 S. Illinois Ave. in Oak Ridge, from 7-9 p.m., Eastern time, will include a presentation on the draft statement’s findings and a transcribed public comment session. The meeting agenda, as well as details for attending via webinar or teleconference, will be available on the agency’s [Public Meeting Schedule](#). Meeting details will also be available by Nov. 1 on the NRC’s Kairos [construction permit review](#) page.

Kairos filed an application on Sept. 29, 2021, seeking a permit to build a 35-megawatt, non-power reactor, which uses molten salt to cool the reactor core. The test reactor would provide operational data to support the development of a larger version meant for commercial deployment. The company will have to submit a separate application for an operating license for the test reactor in the future. A copy of the draft EIS will be available for public review at the Oak Ridge Public Library, 1401 Oak Ridge Turnpike in Oak Ridge.