

United States Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Office of Public Affairs, Region I
475 Allendale Road King of Prussia, PA 19406
Fax: 610/337-5241
Internet: dps@nrc.gov or nas@nrc.gov

I-99-22

March 30, 1999

Contact: Diane Screnci (610/337-5330) FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
Neil A. Sheehan (610/337-5331)

NRC TO HOLD PUBLIC MEETINGS ON DRAFT ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT STATEMENT FOR CALVERT CLIFFS LICENSE RENEWAL APPLICATION

The Nuclear Regulatory Commission will meet with the public on April 6 to discuss its draft environmental impact statement on Baltimore Gas and Electric's (BGE's) proposed renewal of its license for the Calvert Cliffs nuclear power plant in Lusby, Md.

Two identical meetings will be held at the Holiday Inn Select, Solomons, Maryland. The first session will start at 1:30 p.m. and the second session will start at 7:00 p.m.; the meetings are scheduled to last up to three hours each. Staff from the NRC and its contractors involved in the development of the document will be available to clarify the environmental issues of interest raised at the public meeting.

BGE submitted an application to the NRC in April 1998 to renew the licenses for Calvert Cliffs Unit 1 and Unit 2 for another 20 years. The current licenses of the two units expire July 31, 2014, for Unit 1 and August 13, 2016, for Unit 2.

The draft environmental impact statement to be discussed was published in February for public comment. The comment period expires May 20. The NRC staff has preliminarily found that there are no environmental impacts that would preclude NRC license renewal for environmental reasons. In preparing the document, the NRC considered comments made during the environmental scoping process, including public meetings held in July of last year in Solomons.

When issued in final form, the statement will be a Calvert Cliffs, plant-specific supplement to the "Generic Environmental Impact Statement (GEIS) for License Renewal of Nuclear Plants," (NUREG-1437). The document includes the staff's preliminary analysis of the environmental effects of the proposed action and alternatives available for reducing or avoiding adverse impacts. It also examines possible alternatives to the proposed action, including no action and those energy sources that are reasonable alternatives.

Interested parties may register to attend or present oral comments at the April 6 meeting by contacting Thomas J. Kenyon at 800/368-5642, or by e-mail at

cceis@nrc.gov, no later than April 2. The public may also register 15 minutes before each session. Individual comment time may be limited by the time available.

Single copies of the draft supplement are available by written request to the Office of the Chief Information Officer, Reproduction and Distribution Services Section, U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission, Washington, DC 20555-0001; by e-mail to DISTRIBUTION@nrc.gov; or by fax to 301/415-2289.

Copies are also available for review at the NRC Public Document Room, 2120 L Street, NW, Washington, DC, and the Local Public Document Room for Calvert Cliffs at the Calvert County Public Library, 30 Duke Street, Prince Frederick, Md. 20678. The document is available electronically at www.nrc.gov/NRC/NUREGS/SR1437/S1/index.html.

Written, as well as oral, comments may be presented during the meeting. Those wishing to submit written comments later should address them to the Chief, Rules and Directives Branch, Division of Administrative Services, Mailstop T-6D-59, U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission, Washington, DC 20555-0001, by e-mail to cceis@nrc.gov,

#