



NRC NEWS

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HARRIS APPLICATION FOR NEW REACTORS AVAILABLE ON NRC WEBSITE

The Nuclear Regulatory Commission today made available the public version of a combined license (COL) application for two new reactors at the Harris site near Apex, N.C.

The applicant, Progress Energy, submitted the application and associated information Feb. 19. The application, minus proprietary or security-related details, is available on the NRC Web site at: <http://www.nrc.gov/reactors/new-licensing/col.html>.

The Progress COL application seeks approval to build and operate two AP1000 reactors at the site, approximately 20 miles southwest of Raleigh. The AP1000 is a Westinghouse-designed 1,100 MWe pressurized-water reactor the NRC certified in 2006. The NRC accepted Westinghouse's application to amend the AP1000 design in January.

The NRC staff is currently conducting an initial check of the application to determine whether it contains sufficient information required for a formal review. If the application passes the initial check, the NRC will "docket," or accept it for review; this decision is expected in April. If the application is accepted for formal review, the NRC will then notice an opportunity for the public to participate in an adjudicatory hearing on the application.

The NRC is currently reviewing COL applications for the Lee site in South Carolina, the South Texas Project site in Texas, the Bellefonte site in Alabama, the North Anna site in Virginia, and a partial application for the Calvert Cliffs site in Maryland. The agency is also conducting an acceptance review on an application for the Grand Gulf site in Mississippi. The agency expects an additional 14 applications in 2008. Information about the new reactor licensing process is available on the NRC Web site at: <http://www.nrc.gov/reactors/new-reactor-licensing.html>.

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