



NRC NEWS

U.S. NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

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NRC MEETING WITH PUBLIC JAN. 29 ON ENVIRONMENTAL ISSUES FOR BELL BEND NEW REACTOR APPLICATION

Nuclear Regulatory Commission staff will hold a public meeting Thursday, Jan. 29, in Berwick, Pa., to discuss the environmental issues the agency should consider in reviewing a Combined License (COL) application for a new reactor proposed for the Bell Bend site near Berwick.

The NRC will meet with the public on Jan. 29 from 7 – 10 p.m. at the Berwick Area Senior High School, 1100 Fowler Ave. in Berwick. The application's environmental report is available on the agency's Web site at: <http://www.nrc.gov/reactors/new-reactors/col/bell-bend.html>. Copies of the report are also available at the following locations: the Mill Memorial Public Library, 495 E. Main St. in Nanticoke, Pa., and the McBride Memorial Library, 500 N. Market St. in Berwick.

NRC staff will be available for informal discussions with members of the public during an "open house" session from 6 – 7 p.m. Formal comments on the environmental review will only be accepted during the meeting from 7 – 10 p.m.

PPL Bell Bend submitted its application Oct. 10, 2008, for approval to build and operate an Evolutionary Power Reactor (EPR) at the site, about five miles northeast of Berwick. The NRC held a public meeting in Bloomsberg on Aug. 19, 2008, to discuss the COL review process. The NRC currently is reviewing the EPR design for possible certification. The staff will consider any findings concerning the design during the review of the Bell Bend application. Information on the EPR application is available on the NRC Web site at: <http://www.nrc.gov/reactors/new-reactors/design-cert/epr.html>.

Those wishing to register in advance to present their comments at the meeting should contact Stacey Imboden or Tomeka Terry by telephone at 800-368-5642, x2462 or x1488 respectively, or via e-mail at BBNP.COLEIS@nrc.gov by Jan. 22. Those with special needs for

attending or presenting information at the meeting should notify the staff by Jan. 15. Those wishing to speak may also register at each meeting no later than 6:45 p.m. Individual comments may be limited by the time available and the number of people wishing to speak.

NRC staff will also consider written comments on the environmental review process. Comments should be submitted no later than March 9, either by mail to the Chief, Rules and Directives Branch, Division of Administrative Services, Office of Administration, Mailstop TWB-05-B01M, U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission, Washington, DC 20555-0001, or via e-mail at BBNP.COLEIS@nrc.gov.

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