



NRC NEWS

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NRC RESCHEDULES REVIEW ON NEW REACTOR APPLICATION FOR NINE MILE POINT, CANCELS FEB. 25 MEETING

The Nuclear Regulatory Commission will hold off on starting much of its review of the Combined License (COL) application for the Nine Mile Point site near Oswego, N.Y., following a request from the applicants, Nine Mile Point Nuclear Project and UniStar.

The NRC has also cancelled environmental scoping meetings on the Nine Mile Point application originally planned for Wednesday, Feb. 25, in Oswego. The staff has halted the scoping process but intends to restart it later this year.

Nine Mile Point Nuclear Project and UniStar submitted the application and associated information Sept. 30, 2008, and updated the application on Nov. 18, 2008, seeking approval to build and operate an Evolutionary Power Reactor (EPR) at the site. The staff accepted the Nine Mile Point application for review in December 2008, assigning docket number 52-038. The companies informed the NRC in a Feb. 9 letter that for the next few months, UniStar would be focusing its resources on the COL application for the Calvert Cliffs site in Maryland, the "lead" application for the EPR. The applicants asked the NRC to schedule its reviews accordingly.

For now, the NRC will continue limited interactions, such as with the Federal Emergency Management Agency regarding emergency preparedness issues associated with the potential of an additional reactor at Nine Mile Point. Once UniStar provides additional information promised in the Feb. 9 letter, the NRC will examine the available information and determine an appropriate review schedule.

The commercial nuclear power industry has submitted 17 COL applications to the NRC since 2007. The agency is currently reviewing 13 of those applications.

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