



NRC NEWS

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NRC TO DISCUSS RESULTS OF LICENSE RENEWAL INSPECTION FOR DUANE ARNOLD NUCLEAR POWER PLANT

The U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission staff has scheduled a public meeting to discuss the results of an inspection related to a request to extend the operating license for the Duane Arnold nuclear power plant on Wednesday, Dec. 16. The plant is located in Palo, Iowa, roughly 10 miles northwest of Cedar Rapids.

FPL Energy Duane Arnold, which owns and operates the plant, has applied for a 20-year license extension for the one-unit site. The NRC inspection is part of an ongoing review of that application.

The meeting is scheduled to begin at 6 p.m. at the Hiawatha Community Center, 101 Emmons Street in Hiawatha. After the formal presentation of the inspection results, the NRC staff will be available to answer questions from the public about the review.

Under NRC regulations, the original operating license for a nuclear power plant is issued for 40 years. Companies may apply to renew those licenses for an additional 20 years if NRC requirements are met.

FPL Energy Duane Arnold applied to the NRC on Oct. 1, 2008, to renew the license for the Duane Arnold plant. If approved, the expiration date for the Duane Arnold plant operating license would be extended to Feb. 21, 2034.

The NRC license renewal review process and NRC requirements assure safe plant operation for extended plant life, which includes a plant managing the effects of aging on key safety equipment through monitoring and maintenance programs. At the meeting, NRC staff will present the results of the inspection of the aging management programs proposed in the Duane Arnold application.

A copy of the Duane Arnold license renewal application is available on the NRC's Web site at: <http://www.nrc.gov/reactors/operating/licensing/renewal/applications/duane-arnold-energy-center.html>. Additional information on the NRC's license renewal review process is available at: www.nrc.gov/reactors/operating/licensing/renewal.html.

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