



NRC NEWS

U.S. NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

Office of Public Affairs Telephone: 301/415-8200

Washington, D.C. 20555-0001

E-mail: opa.resource@nrc.gov

Site: <http://www.nrc.gov>

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NRC ANNOUNCES OPPORTUNITY TO PARTICIPATE IN HEARING ON EARLY SITE PERMIT APPLICATION FOR VICTORIA COUNTY SITE

The Nuclear Regulatory Commission today announced the opportunity for public participation in a hearing on an Early Site Permit (ESP) application for a site in Victoria County, Texas.

Exelon submitted its ESP application on March 25, seeking the NRC's determination on whether the site is suitable for a nuclear power facility, contingent on the approval of an additional application for a construction permit or combined license. An ESP is valid for 10 to 20 years and can potentially be renewed for an additional 10 to 20 years. The Exelon application, minus proprietary and security-related details, is available on the NRC website at: <http://www.nrc.gov/reactors/new-reactors/esp/victoria.html>.

The NRC staff has determined that the application contains sufficient information for the agency to formally "docket," or file, the application and begin its technical review. Docketing the application does not preclude requests for additional information as the review proceeds; nor does it indicate whether the Commission will issue the permit. The docket number established for this application is 52-042.

The NRC has issued in the *Federal Register* a notice of opportunity for the public to intervene in the proceeding on the application (<http://edocket.access.gpo.gov/2010/pdf/2010-29481.pdf>), and the deadline for requesting a hearing is Jan. 24, 2011. Petitions may be filed by anyone whose interest may be affected by the proposed license, who wishes to participate as a party in the proceeding, and who meets criteria set out in the NRC's regulations. Background information regarding the hearing process was provided by NRC staff to members of the public during an April 15 public information session in Victoria, Texas.

A petition to intervene must be electronically submitted in a timely manner to the NRC's Electronic Information Exchange (EIE) system. The petition to intervene must be filed in accordance with the NRC's E-Filing Rule that appeared in the *Federal Register* on Aug. 28, 2007 (<http://edocket.access.gpo.gov/2007/pdf/E7-16898.pdf>). Additional guidance and instructions regarding electronic submissions to the NRC EIE system is available on the NRC web pages at <http://www.nrc.gov/site-help/e-submittals.html>.

Detailed information about the new reactor licensing process can be found on the NRC website at: <http://www.nrc.gov/reactors/new-reactors.html>.

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NOTE: Anyone wishing to take photos or use a camera to record any portion of a NRC meeting should contact the Office of Public Affairs beforehand.

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