

NRC NEWS

Office of Public Affairs. Headquarters

Washington, DC. 20555-0001

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December 17, 2013 No: 13-104

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NRC Seeks Public Comment on Draft Environmental Report on Grand Gulf Nuclear Plant License Renewal

The Nuclear Regulatory Commission is seeking public comments on a draft report assessing the environmental impacts of extending the operating license of the Grand Gulf nuclear power plant in Port Gibson, Miss.

The Grand Gulf Nuclear Station has one boiling water reactor. Entergy Operations Inc. submitted an application in October 2011 to renew the license for an additional 20 years, until 2044.

The draft environmental impact statement contains the NRC staff's preliminary finding that the environmental impacts of license renewal would not preclude renewing the license. This finding is based on the analysis and findings in the agency's generic environmental impact statement on license renewal, the environmental report submitted by Entergy, consultation with federal, state and local agencies, the NRC staff's own independent review, and the staff's consideration of public comments.

The NRC staff will hold two public meetings on Jan. 29, 2014, at the Port Gibson City Hall, 1005 College St., in Port Gibson, from 2-3:30 p.m. and 7-8:30 p.m. Staff members involved in the license renewal review will explain the draft findings and accept public comments. Comments may also be submitted over the federal rulemakings website at www.regulations.gov, using Docket ID NRC-2011-0262, or mailed to Cindy Bladey, Chief, Rules, Announcements, and Directives Branch (RADB), Office of Administration, Mail Stop: 3WFN-06-44M, U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission, Washington, DC 20555-0001. Comments will be accepted through Feb. 11, 2014.

The draft environmental impact statement for the Grand Gulf Nuclear Station license renewal (NUREG-1437, supplement 50), along with information on the staff's review of the license renewal application, is available on the NRC website.