



# NRC NEWS

Office of Public Affairs, Headquarters

Washington, DC. 20555-0001  
www.nrc.gov ■ opa.resource@nrc.gov



No: 23-056  
CONTACT: [Scott Burnell](mailto:Scott.Burnell@nrc.gov), 301-415-8200

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## NRC to Hold Mandatory Hearing on Kairos Construction Permit Application

The Nuclear Regulatory Commission will conduct a [mandatory hearing](#) Oct. 19 on Kairos Power LLC's application for a construction permit to build a Hermes non-power test reactor in Oak Ridge, Tennessee. This hearing marks the final step in the agency's review of the application.

The Commission's hearing will include testimony and exhibits from the applicant, as well as NRC staff, on the question of whether the staff's review adequately supports the findings necessary to issue the permit. The hearing will begin at 9 a.m. Eastern time in the Commission Hearing Room at NRC Headquarters, 11555 Rockville Pike, Rockville, Maryland. The hearing will be open to public observation and will be [webcast](#). A detailed agenda and presentation slides will be available in advance on the NRC's [website](#).

Kairos submitted its application to build the Hermes reactor in two parts in September and October 2021. Kairos is seeking a permit to build a 35-megawatt thermal reactor that would use molten salt to cool the reactor core. The test reactor, which will not generate electricity, is intended to provide operational data to support the development of a larger version for commercial power. The NRC would need to review and approve a future application from Kairos before an operating license for Hermes could be issued. The NRC issued its [final environmental impact statement](#) for the site on Aug. 17, 2023, and the [final safety evaluation report](#) for the permit on June 14, 2023.

Media Notes: Members of the media are asked to contact the NRC Office of Public Affairs (301-415-8200 or [OPA.Resource@nrc.gov](mailto:OPA.Resource@nrc.gov)) in advance to provide the names of those attending the meeting to assure sufficient seating. Seats on one side of the Commission hearing room will be reserved for accredited members of the news media. Photographers will have limited space at the meeting in which to take photos. Plan to arrive in advance of the meeting at the NRC's One White Flint North entrance, at the corner of Rockville Pike and Marinelli Road, with proper media credentials. The NRC is located across the street from the North Bethesda Metro station. Parking is available at the North Bethesda Metro parking garage on Marinelli Road.