



NRC NEWS

U.S. NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

Office of Public Affairs, Region I
475 Allendale Road, King of Prussia, Pa. 19406

www.nrc.gov

No. I-04-035

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July 1, 2004

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NRC TO MEET WITH PUBLIC IN NEW YORK ON NINE MILE POINT LICENSE RENEWAL

The Nuclear Regulatory Commission will hold a public information meeting on Thursday evening, July 8th, to discuss the process the agency will follow in reviewing the application submitted by Constellation Nuclear to renew the licenses for Nine Mile Point Units 1 and 2 in Scruba, N.Y.

Constellation Nuclear submitted a license renewal application for the two units on May 27. The current operating licenses for Units 1 and 2 expire on August 22, 2009, and October 31, 2026, respectively

The meeting will be held from 7:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. in the Joint News Center, 10 Airport Road, in Fulton, N.Y. The NRC's presentation will include information on how the process works and how the public can participate. Members of the public are invited to ask questions on the NRC's license renewal review process.

"It's an opportunity for the public to learn about the license renewal process early on. We look forward to helping the public better understand our review process," said Samson S. Lee, NRC license renewal section chief.

Under NRC regulations, the original operating license for a nuclear power plant is issued for 40 years. It may be renewed for up to an additional 20 years if NRC requirements are met.

The license renewal process requires that both a technical review of safety issues and an environmental review be performed for each application. The NRC staff is currently reviewing Constellation's application to determine whether it contains enough information to begin the required formal review. If the application has sufficient information, the NRC will formally docket, or file, the application and will announce an opportunity to request a hearing.

A copy of the license renewal application for the Nine Mile Point units is available for review at the Penfield Library (Selective Depository), Reference and Documents Department, State University of New York, Oswego, N.Y., and on the NRC's web site at www.nrc.gov/reactors/operating/licensing/renewal/applications/nine-mile-pt.html

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