



NRC NEWS

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Office of Public Affairs

Telephone: 301/415-8200

Washington, D.C. 20555-0001

E-mail: opa@nrc.gov

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

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NRC ISSUES SUPPLEMENTAL SAFETY EVALUATION FOR NORTH ANNA EARLY SITE PERMIT APPLICATION

The Nuclear Regulatory Commission staff has issued a supplement to the safety evaluation report (SER) for a requested Early Site Permit (ESP) at the North Anna site in Louisa County, Va., about 40 miles northwest of Richmond.

The ESP process allows an applicant to address site-related issues, such as environmental impacts, for possible future construction and operation of a nuclear power plant at the site. The North Anna application was filed Sept. 25, 2003, by Dominion Nuclear North Anna, LLC. If approved, the permit would give Dominion up to 20 years to decide whether to build one or more nuclear plants on the site and to file an application with the NRC for approval to begin construction.

NRC technical experts and inspectors reviewed and verified the information that Dominion provided to revise portions of the final SER issued in September 2005. Dominion supplemented its application to reflect changes to the potential power output, cooling methods and liquid effluent releases for the proposed reactors. The staff's supplement to the SER reflects review of those changes. The Commission is expected to reach a final decision on the ESP application in late 2007, after reviewing the staff's final SER and Environmental Impact Statement, along with a report from the NRC's independent Advisory Committee on Reactor Safeguards and the findings of an NRC Atomic Safety and Licensing Board Panel hearing on the application.

The supplement is available electronically for public inspection in the NRC Public Document Room, 11555 Rockville Pike, Rockville, Md. It will also be available on the NRC's Web site at: <http://www.nrc.gov/reactors/new-licensing/esp/north-anna.html>. In addition, the Louisa County Library, 881 Davis Highway in Mineral, Va., has agreed to make the document available for public inspection.

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