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NRC Announces Public Availability of License Renewal Application for Braidwood and Byron Nuclear Power Plants in Illinois

The Nuclear Regulatory Commission has received an application from Exelon Generation Co. to renew the operating licenses for the Braidwood and Byron nuclear power plants in Illinois. The application is now available for public inspection on the NRC website.

Exelon filed the application, dated May 29, seeking to renew the operating licenses for an additional 20 years of operation. The Braidwood Nuclear Station, located 20 miles southwest of Joliet, and the Byron Nuclear Station, located 17 miles southwest of Rockford, each have two pressurized-water reactors. The current operating licenses for Braidwood expire on Oct. 17, 2026, for Unit 1 and Dec. 18, 2027, for Unit 2. The licenses for Byron expire Oct. 31, 2024, for Unit 1 and Nov. 6, 2026, for Unit 2.

Exelon, in submitting a single application to cover both plants, cited extensive similarities in the systems, structures and components of each that are analyzed in a license renewal review. The NRC staff is currently reviewing the application to determine if it is sufficiently complete to begin its extensive safety and environmental reviews. If the application is determined to be complete, the staff will docket it and publish a notice of opportunity to request an adjudicatory hearing before the NRC's Atomic Safety and Licensing Board.

The <u>application</u> and information about the <u>license renewal process</u> are available on the NRC website. Copies of the application are also available at the Byron Public Library, 100 S. Washington St., in Byron, and the Fossil Ridge Public Library at 386 W. Kennedy Road in Braidwood.