



NRC NEWS

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NRC MEETING SEPTEMBER 18 IN APEX, N.C., TO DISCUSS REVIEW PROCESS FOR EXPECTED NEW REACTOR APPLICATION

Nuclear Regulatory Commission staff will conduct a public meeting in Apex, N.C., on Tuesday, Sept. 18, to discuss how the agency will review an expected Combined License (COL) application for new reactors at the Shearon Harris site, about 20 miles southwest of Raleigh. The prospective applicant, Progress Energy, has told the NRC it intends to apply in a few months for a license to build and operate two AP1000 reactors at Harris.

“The NRC’s expecting several applications before the end of this year, and as we review them we’ll be looking for valuable input from nearby communities,” said William Borchardt, Director of the NRC’s Office of New Reactors. “This meeting will help residents understand and contribute to the process.”

The meeting will be held at New Horizons Fellowship, 820 E. Williams St. in Apex, from 7 p.m. until 9 p.m. NRC staff presentations will describe the overall Combined License review process, which includes safety and environmental assessments, as well as how the public can participate in the process. The NRC will host an open house for an hour prior to the meeting so members of the public have the opportunity to talk informally with agency staff.

A COL, if issued, is authorization from the NRC to construct and, with conditions, operate a nuclear power plant at a specific site and in accordance with laws and regulations. More information on the NRC’s new reactor licensing process is available on the agency’s Web site here: <http://www.nrc.gov/reactors/new-reactor-licensing.html> .

The AP1000 is one of four NRC-certified reactor designs that can be referenced in a COL. It is a 1,000 MWe advanced pressurized water reactor that incorporates passive safety systems and simplified system designs. The AP1000 is similar to another certified design, the AP600, but uses a taller reactor vessel to accommodate longer fuel rods, and also includes larger steam generators and a larger pressurizer.

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