

United States Nuclear Regulatory Commission
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**NRC SEEKS PUBLIC INPUT FOR ENVIRONMENTAL STATEMENT ON PROPOSED
CALVERT CLIFFS LICENSE RENEWAL**

No. 98-102

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
(Thursday, June 25, 1998)

The Nuclear Regulatory Commission staff has scheduled a public meeting July 9 in Solomons, Maryland, on an application from Baltimore Gas and Electric Company (BG&E) to renew its operating licenses for the Calvert Cliffs Nuclear Power Plant, Units 1 and 2, in Lusby, Maryland. Members of the public are invited to attend and comment on what environmental issues the NRC should consider in its review of the proposed license renewal.

The meeting will be held at the Holiday Inn Select, 155 Holiday Drive, in Solomons. Two similar sessions will be held, in the afternoon and in the evening. Interested persons are invited to participate in the session that is more convenient for them. The first will begin at 2:00 p.m. and continue until 5:00 p.m.; the second will begin at 7:00 p.m. and continue until 10:00 p.m.

The two sessions will begin with identical overviews. The NRC staff will give a presentation on the license renewal and environmental review processes. BG&E will discuss the environmental portion of the proposed license renewal.

Under NRC regulations, the original operating license for a nuclear power plant is issued for up to 40 years. The license may be renewed for up to an additional 20 years if NRC requirements are met. The current operating licenses for Calvert Cliffs will expire on July 31, 2014, for Unit 1 and on August 13, 2016, for Unit 2. BG&E submitted its application for license renewal in April.

As part of its application, Baltimore Gas & Electric Company submitted an environmental report. That report is available for public review in the NRC's Local Public Document Room located in the Calvert County Public Library, 30 Duke Street, Prince Frederick, Maryland, and at the NRC Public Document Room located at 2120 L Street, N.W., Washington, D.C.

An existing NRC document, "Generic Environmental Impact Statement for License Renewal of Nuclear Power Plants" (NUREG- 1437), assesses the scope and impact of environmental effects that would be associated with license renewal at any nuclear power plant site. The document for which NRC will gather information at the July meeting will be a Calvert Cliffs-plant-specific supplement to that generic environmental statement. It will contain a recommendation regarding the environmental acceptability of the license renewal action.

At the conclusion of the information-gathering process, the NRC staff will prepare a summary of the conclusions reached and significant issues identified and will send a copy to each person who participated. The summary will also be available for public review in the NRC

public document rooms in Prince Frederick and Washington, D.C.

The NRC staff will then prepare a draft environmental impact statement (EIS) supplement for public comment and will hold a public meeting to solicit comments. After consideration of comments received on the draft, the NRC will prepare a final EIS supplement.

Persons may register to attend or present oral comments at the July 9 meeting by contacting Claudia M. Craig by telephone at 800/368-5642, extension 415-1053, or by Internet at cceis@nrc.gov no later than July 2. Members of the public who wish to make comments may also register at the Holiday Inn meeting site within 15 minutes of the start of each session. Individual comments may be limited by the time available.

Members of the public may also submit written comments on the scope of the environmental impact supplement. They should be submitted by August 7, either by mail to the Chief, Rules and Directives Branch, Division of Administrative Services, Mail stop T-6-D-59, U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission, Washington, DC 20555-0001, or by Internet to the same address as above: cceis@nrc.gov.

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