



NRC NEWS

U.S. NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

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LICENSING BOARD TO HEAR ORAL ARGUMENT MARCH 1 ON DAVIS-BESSE REACTOR LICENSE RENEWAL APPLICATION

An Atomic Safety and Licensing Board (ASLB) will conduct oral argument March 1 in Port Clinton, Ohio, regarding FirstEnergy's application to renew the operating license for the Davis-Besse nuclear power plant near Oak Harbor, Ohio. The Atomic Safety and License Board Panel is the independent body within the NRC that presides over hearings where the public can challenge proposed licensing and enforcement actions.

The ASLB will start its session at 9 a.m. EST on Tuesday, March 1, in the Common Pleas courtroom in the Ottawa County Court House at 315 Madison St. in Port Clinton. The session is expected to conclude by 4:30 p.m. The session is open for public observation, but participation will be limited to designated representatives of the groups seeking admittance to the proceeding (Beyond Nuclear, Citizens Environment Alliance of Southwestern Ontario [Ontario Citizens Alliance], Don't Waste Michigan and the Green Party of Ohio, collectively the "Joint Petitioners"), and counsel for FirstEnergy and NRC staff involved in the proceeding. Early arrival is suggested to allow for security screening for those interested in attending. NRC policy prohibits disruptive behavior in the hearing room, as well as signs, banners, posters or displays larger than 18 inches by 18 inches.

FirstEnergy submitted the Davis-Besse license renewal application to the NRC on Aug. 27, 2010, seeking a 20-year extension of the license for the plant, from the current expiration date of April 22, 2017, to April 22, 2037. The Joint Petitioners have submitted four objections, or contentions, challenging FirstEnergy's application. The ASLB will question the parties regarding whether the contentions can be resolved under the NRC's jurisdiction.

Documents related to the Davis-Besse license renewal application are available on the NRC website at: <http://www.nrc.gov/reactors/operating/licensing/renewal/applications/davis-besse.html>. Documents pertaining to the ASLB proceeding, including the Joint Petitioners' contentions, are available in the agency's Electronic Hearing Docket at: <http://ehd1.nrc.gov/EHD/>.

More information about the ASLB can be found at: <http://www.nrc.gov/about-nrc/organization/aslbpfundesc.html>.

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NOTE: Anyone wishing to take photos or use a camera to record any portion of a NRC meeting should contact the Office of Public Affairs beforehand.

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