

No: III-14-041

November 28, 2014

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NRC Seeks Comment On Proposed License Termination At Jefferson Proving Ground

Nuclear Regulatory Commission staff will hold a public meeting on Wed., Dec. 3, in Madison, Ind., to discuss the agency's review of the U.S. Army's request to terminate the NRC license for the Depleted Uranium Impact Area at the Jefferson Proving Ground, located in southeastern Indiana.

The meeting will be held from 7 to 10 p.m. EST at The Livery Stable, 309 Broadway Street, in Madison. The NRC will hold an open house at 6 p.m. EST to provide interested citizens with an opportunity to talk informally with agency staff.

The meeting will include the NRC's presentation on the agency's process for the license termination safety and environmental review, followed by comments from the public. The meeting will be transcribed. Public comments will be considered by the NRC staff and will be used in preparing an Environmental Impact Statement, which will assess the potential environmental impacts of the Army's proposed action and alternatives to the proposed action.

"Public input is a cornerstone of the agency's scoping process for the Environmental Impact Statement," said NRC Senior Project Manager Stephen Lemont. "We hope area residents will participate in this meeting to provide comments about the environmental issues they consider significant."

The Jefferson Proving Ground was used by the Army between 1941 and 1995 for test firing of conventional munitions. Between 1984 and 1994, the Army test fired depleted uranium projectiles under an NRC license in the Depleted Uranium Impact Area. Some of the undetonated munitions and depleted uranium remain in this area of the Jefferson Proving Ground. In 2000, the operation of the former proving ground passed to the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and is currently known as the Big Oaks National Wildlife Refuge. However, the Army retains ownership of the property.

In 2013, the Army submitted a request to the NRC to terminate the license for the Depleted Uranium Impact Area under restricted conditions. The Army proposes to leave the depleted uranium and the undetonated munitions in place while it continues to maintain institutional control over the area, such as physical access restrictions.

Members of the public may register at the meeting to present oral comments. Written comments can also be provided at the meeting; submitted through the [Federal Rulemaking Website](#) by

searching for Docket ID NRC-2014-0097; or mailed to Cindy Bladey, Office of Administration, Mail Stop: 3WFN-06-A44M, U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission, Washington, DC 20555-001.

Documents related to this action can be found in the [Federal Rulemaking Website](#) under Docket ID NRC-2014-0097, in the NRC's [electronic document system](#), and at the Madison Branch of the Jefferson County Public Library.