

UNITED STATES NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION WASHINGTON, D.C. 205555-0001

March 24, 2023

ALL FEDERALLY RECOGNIZED TRIBES

NOTIFICATION OF INFORMATIONAL MEETING WITH FEDERALLY RECOGNIZED TRIBES REGARDING THE PROPOSED RULE AND DRAFT REVISED GENERIC ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT STATEMENT FOR LICENSE RENEWAL OF NUCLEAR PLANTS (NUREG1437, DRAFT REVISION 2) (STC-23-018)

Purpose: To provide notice that the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) will conduct an informational meeting with Federally recognized Tribes to discuss a proposed rule to amend the regulations that govern the NRC's environmental reviews of license renewal applications for nuclear power plants under the National Environmental Policy Act.

Background: The proposed rule titled "Renewing Nuclear Power Plant Operating Licenses – Environmental Review" would codify the revised generic findings of NUREG-1437, "Generic Environmental Impact Statement for License Renewal of Nuclear Power Plants," Revision 2 (LR GEIS) in Part 51 of Title 10 of the *Code of Federal Regulations* (10 CFR Part 51), "Environmental Protection Regulations for Domestic Licensing and Related Regulatory Functions." Generally, the NRC relies on the findings and analyses in the LR GEIS to determine which resources areas require a power plant-specific review (e.g., historic and cultural resources, endangered species) and those that do not (e.g., land use, socioeconomics). Additionally, the NRC is issuing for public comment the draft revised LR GEIS and associated guidance contained in Draft Regulatory Guide-4027, Supplement 1, Revision 2, "Preparation of Environmental Reports for Nuclear Power Plant License Renewal Applications," and Draft NUREG-1555, Supplement 1, Revision 2, "Standard Review Plans for Environmental Reviews for Nuclear Power Plants, Supplement 1: Operating License Renewal."

On February 28, 2023, NRC provided an update on the proposed rule and draft revised LR GEIS at the Nuclear Energy Tribal Working Group (NETWG) quarterly meeting, including a discussion of NRC's plans for public participation in the rulemaking process. During this meeting, participants requested that NRC also consider holding a separate informational meeting with Tribal governments.

Discussion: Consistent with the Commission's Tribal Policy Statement, the NRC staff will hold an informational meeting with Federally recognized Tribes on April 12, 2023, at 3:00 pm EDT, to provide an overview of the proposed rule and draft revised LR GEIS. This meeting is not open to the public and is intended to afford Tribal representatives an opportunity to discuss the rule with NRC staff and ask questions. This meeting will not be recorded or transcribed. To participate in this virtual meeting, please click this Microsoft Teams link.

Additionally, the NRC is conducting several hybrid public meetings to provide an overview of the proposed rule and draft revised LR GEIS and to receive comments. A notice of these meetings was provided in the *Federal Register* Notice 88 FR 14958 (March 10, 2023) "Renewing Nuclear Power Plant Operating Licenses – Environmental Review; Proposed Rule," announcing the location, date, and time of the meetings. Specific details about the meetings can be found in the NRC's public meeting webpage at https://www.nrc.gov/pmns/mtg. NRC notified Federally recognized Tribes and States of the issuance of this *Federal Register* notice via State and Tribal Communications letter dated March 15, 2023 (<a href="https://state.com/s

If your Tribe would like to submit comments on the proposed rule package, please send via one of the methods below by May 2, 2023. Comments received after this date will be considered if it is practical to do so, but the NRC is only able to assure consideration for comments received on or before May 2, 2023. Comments may be submitted to the NRC by the following methods:

- Federal Rulemaking Website: Go to https://www.regulations.gov and search for Docket ID NRC-2018-0296.
- Email comments to: Rulemaking.Comments@nrc.gov.
- Mail comments to: Secretary, U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission, Washington, DC 20555-0001, ATTN: Rulemakings and Adjudications Staff.

If you have questions regarding this correspondence, please contact the individuals named below:

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Sincerely,

Cheryl Miotla, Deputy Director
Subsequent License Environmental Directorate
Office of Nuclear Material Safety
and Safeguards

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RECOGNIZED INDIAN TRIBES REGARDING THE PROPOSED RULE AND DRAFT REVISED GENERIC ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT STATEMENT FOR

LICENSE RENEWAL OF NUCLEAR PLANTS (NUREG-1437, DRAFT

REVISION 2) (STC-23-018)

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