

and the NRC staff develops a site-specific supplement to the GEIS and includes a recommendation for each license renewal application. The environmental protection regulations for any NRC licensing action is contained in 10 CFR Part 51 and may be viewed on the Internet at <http://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/doc-collections/cfr/part051/index.html>. The license renewal process also includes a safety review and inspections prior to issuance of a renewed license.

In the introductory remarks to Appendix B to Subpart A of Part 51, "Environmental Effects of Renewing the Operating License of a Nuclear Power Plant," the Commission stated that, on a 10-year cycle, it intends to review the material in Table B-1 and update it, if necessary. The first 10-year cycle will end in 2006; the goal of the NRC staff is to complete this GEIS Update Project by the end of 2006.

The purpose of this notice is to inform the public that the NRC is planning to prepare an environmental impact statement (EIS), in this case it is an update to the GEIS, and to provide the public an opportunity to participate in the environmental scoping process, as defined in 10 CFR 51.29. This step is the initial opportunity for stakeholder participation in the GEIS update and it occurs before the NRC has determined results or recommendations for the update. The environmental review process for license renewal will continue under the current regulatory framework throughout the course of this effort. If, as a result of this scoping process, it is determined that an update is not necessary, then that result will be published in the **Federal Register** as well.

The GEIS and Addendum 1 to the GEIS were prepared pursuant to 10 CFR part 51 and are available for public inspection at the NRC Public Document Room (PDR), located at One White Flint North, 11555 Rockville Pike (first floor), Rockville, Maryland, or from the Publicly Available Records component of NRC's Agencywide Documents Access and Management System (ADAMS). ADAMS is accessible at <http://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/adams.html>, which provides access through the NRC's Public Electronic Reading Room (PERR) link. Persons who do not have access to ADAMS, or who encounter problems in accessing the documents located in ADAMS, should contact the NRC's PDR Reference staff at 1-800-397-4209, or 301-415-4737, or by e-mail to PDR@NRC.GOV. The GEIS, its Addendum 1, and its Supplements may also be viewed on the Internet at [\[collections/nuregs/staff/sr1437/\]\(http://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/doc-collections/nuregs/staff/sr1437/\). As indicated, the NRC prepares site-specific supplements to the GEIS for each license renewal application assessing the environmental impacts specific to that power plant location; these reports may be useful to scoping participants to understand the environmental review process and the environmental issues associated with the review for license renewal. The Supplements to the GEIS can also be viewed on the Internet in the context for each project and are listed by project at: <http://www.nrc.gov/reactors/operating/licensing/renewal/applications.html>. The update of the GEIS is a generic activity and, therefore, is not the appropriate forum to consider site-specific issues or concerns.](http://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/doc-</p></div><div data-bbox=)

This notice is being published in accordance with the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) and the NRC's regulations found in 10 CFR part 51. As a convenience, the NRC will also issue other communications (for example, press releases and newspaper ads) to notify the public, but this notice is the formal means to inform interested parties of their opportunity to participate in the scoping process.

In keeping with the framework outlined under NEPA, the NRC will first conduct this scoping process for the update to the GEIS and, thereafter, plans to prepare a draft addendum to the GEIS for public comment outlining the results of the NRC review. Participation in the scoping process by members of the public and local, State, Tribal, and Federal government agencies is encouraged. The scoping process for the addendum to the GEIS will be used to accomplish the following:

- a. Determine whether the purpose and need for the update (the proposed action) is clear.
- b. Determine the scope of the addendum to the GEIS and identify whether there are any significant issues that should be analyzed in depth.
- c. Identify and eliminate from detailed study those issues that are peripheral or that are not significant or which have been covered by prior environmental review.
- d. Identify any environmental assessments and other EISs that are being or will be prepared that are related to, but are not part of the scope of the addendum to the GEIS being considered.
- e. Identify other environmental review and consultation requirements related to the proposed action.
- f. Indicate the relationship between the timing of the preparation of the environmental analyses and the

Commission's tentative planning and decision-making schedule.

g. Identify any cooperating agencies and, as appropriate, allocate assignments for preparation and schedules for completing the addendum to the GEIS to the NRC and any cooperating agencies.

h. Describe how the addendum to the GEIS will be prepared including any contractor assistance to be used.

The NRC invites the following entities to participate in the scoping process:

a. Any Federal agency that has jurisdiction by law or special expertise with respect to any environmental impact involved, or that is authorized to develop and enforce relevant environmental standards.

b. Any affected State and local government agencies, including those authorized to develop and enforce relevant environmental standards.

c. Any affected Indian tribe.

d. Any person who requests or has requested an opportunity to participate in the scoping process.

In accordance with 10 CFR 51.26, the scoping process for an EIS may include a public scoping meeting to help identify significant issues related to a proposed activity and to determine the scope of issues to be addressed in an EIS. The NRC has determined that it is appropriate to conduct public meetings on the GEIS update early in the project to foster public participation. Since this is a generic environmental review activity, the NRC has elected to hold a public meeting in each of the four (4) NRC regions for the GEIS Update Project. The scoping meetings will be held at the following locations: July 8, 2003, DoubleTree-Atlanta Perimeter, 6120 Peachtree Dunwoody Road, Atlanta, GA 30328; July 10, 2003, Hilton-Oak Lawn, 9333 South Cicero Avenue, Oak Lawn, IL 60453; July 15, 2003, Hilton-Anaheim, 777 Convention Way, Anaheim, CA 92802; and July 17, 2003, Executive Conference Center at Bayside (adjacent to the DoubleTree-Bayside), 200 Mount Vernon Street, Boston, MA 02125. Each formal meeting will convene promptly at 7 p.m. with an NRC overview of the role of the GEIS in the license renewal process, the experience gained in its use, and criteria that may be used to consider changes. Each meeting is planned to last for three hours, as necessary, or until all members of the public have had an opportunity to present their views; therefore, the formal meeting may end prior to 10 p.m. Each meeting will be transcribed and will include (1) the overview by the NRC staff of the NEPA environmental review process, the proposed scope of the addendum to the