

TIPS FOR WRITING EIS SCOPING COMMENTS

Point Beach License Renewal EIS

- Keep your comments focused on the specifics of the proposed project under consideration.
- Submit your comments within the timeframes announced to ensure that your concerns are considered and addressed.
- **Avoid** comments that state “I am in favor of this project” or “I am opposed to this project.”
- Back up your statements with explanations, facts, and references, as appropriate.
- Support statements with details if possible. If, for example, you are concerned about biological resources, it is helpful to focus on a particular problem or issue, such as a species that you feel was not sufficiently analyzed, instead of making a broad statement such as “the document needs to adequately analyze the impacts to biological resources.”
- Request the EIS to address concerns and pose questions.
- Consider topics such as:
 - Impacts to threatened or endangered species
 - Air and water quality
 - Historical and cultural sites, particularly sites of significance for indigenous peoples
 - Social and economical impacts to local communities (ie housing, businesses, property values, and considerations of aesthetics and noise expected)
 - Cost and schedule analysis for all of the actions and alternatives
 - Financial plans
 - Environmental mitigation plans
 - Plans for complying with any additional required federal, state, or local permits
- NEPA requires consideration of indirect or secondary impacts so as you consider the proposed action and alternatives. Consider bringing forth questions on potential physical and natural resources as well as the broader socioeconomic environment that may not be directly tied to the proposed action but may be significant because of indirect relationship to the proposed action.
 - Indirect effects are caused by the action and are later in time or farther removed in distance, but are still reasonably foreseeable.
 - Indirect effects may include growth inducing effects and other effects related to induced changes in the pattern of land use, population density or growth rate, and related effects on air and water and other natural systems, including ecosystems.
- NEPA also requires consideration of cumulative effects of a proposed action so consider effects on the environment that can result from individually minor but collectively significant actions taking place over a period of time, noting specifically the long operational licensure timeframe of the reactors.
 - An example of a cumulative effect might be cooling water releases to water bodies. One industry's multiple releases might not represent a significant impact to the temperature dependent limnological characteristics of the water body but the release from multiple sources might represent or cause a 0.5 degree Fahrenheit change in water temperature enough to reduce oxygen levels to a point that a valuable zooplankton species dies off starving off multiple fish species.