

Inside Susquehanna

Winter 2006 News for neighbors of the PPL Susquehanna nuclear power plant



PPL looks to extend Susquehanna's role in the community for many years to come

For more than 20 years the Susquehanna nuclear power plant has been an important part of the community. PPL hopes to continue that relationship.

PPL has applied to the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission for renewal of the plant's operating licenses to 2042 for Unit 1 and 2044 for Unit 2.

The request demonstrates PPL's long-term commitment to continue generating electricity safely, providing good-paying jobs and supporting a wide range of community activities. In 2005, the plant paid more than \$35 million in state, local and school taxes.

PPL's application consists of more than 2,000 pages documenting the plant's ability to generate electricity safely for an additional 20 years beyond the current license. The NRC will evaluate PPL's safety analysis and will study the environmental impact of continued plant operation.

The NRC is reviewing the application. The review should take two to three years and includes many opportunities for public input. The NRC hosted two public meetings Nov. 15 in Berwick to explain the review process.

Copies of the application are available on the NRC's Web site, www.nrc.gov, at the Berwick Public Library and at the Mill Memorial Library in Nanticoke.



PPL Susquehanna training manager Mike Baughman (left) and Bob Saccone, PPL vice president for Nuclear Operations, (second from left) give a tour of the control room simulator at the Susquehanna Learning Center to visitors including Dr. Patricia C. Donohue, president of Luzerne County Community College (center).

Teaming up for education

PPL Susquehanna and Luzerne County Community College offer nuclear technology degree program

PPL Susquehanna's ongoing support of education and economic opportunity for area residents has resulted in a new, two-year degree program in nuclear engineering technology at Luzerne County Community College.

Students in the new program are completing their first semester of studies. Those who successfully complete the program will receive an associate degree in applied science in nuclear engineering technology, which will provide the skills and knowledge recommended for jobs in the nuclear industry.

"With nuclear energy becoming an increasingly important part of the nation's energy supply, it's not too early to begin developing the talent needed for jobs in the industry," said Bill Lowthert, PPL Susquehanna's leadership development manager. "Our partnership with Luzerne County Community College is an example of our commitment to the community, to education and to job opportunities."

Experts from PPL Susquehanna teach several of the courses in the evening at the Susquehanna Learning Center to take advantage of the plant's training equipment. LCCC professors teach the non-nuclear courses in the program.

LCCC provides quality learning opportunities in more than 100 academic and technical programs at its main campus in Nanticoke and several off-campus locations like Berwick, and through distance learning.



Jim Miller (left), PPL Corporation's chairman, president and chief executive officer, talks with Lou Ramos (center), community relations manager for PPL Susquehanna, and Dave Kovach, Columbia County commissioner.

PPL's new chairman addresses local leaders

PPL's chairman, president and chief executive officer, Jim Miller, pledged to continue Susquehanna's long-standing policy of regular and open communications with the community. He also committed to continue to pursue the highest safety standards at the plant.

Miller spoke to more than 90 local leaders during a dinner meeting Oct. 23. PPL Susquehanna hosts this meeting each year to discuss the plant's performance and to give local leaders an opportunity to talk directly with PPL's senior executives.

Miller succeeded Bill Hecht, who retired as PPL's chairman and chief executive officer on Oct. 1.

Miller addressed the status of the new

sirens installed to enhance emergency planning in the area, PPL's continuing support for a spent nuclear fuel disposal facility in Nevada, and PPL's applications to the Nuclear Regulatory Commission to increase power generation and to renew Susquehanna's operating licenses.

"Increasing the plant's output is a cost-effective way to meet the area's growing need for electricity," Miller said. "Renewing the plant's licenses represents the company's long-term commitment to operate safely, to improve plant equipment, to remain a major provider of good-paying jobs and to continue the strong contributions we make to the community."



Hiking trails connected

With the completion of a connecting trail this fall, you can now hike or run 4.5 miles on the nature trails from the Susquehanna Riverlands to the Wetlands Nature Area. PPL Susquehanna provides 400 acres of land between Route 11 and the river for public recreation as part of the Susquehanna Riverlands.

Major work planned for 2007 refueling outage

The 2007 refueling and maintenance outage on Unit 2 will be one of the largest in plant history, involving even more workers than are typically at the plant during outages.

In addition to the normal replacement of nuclear fuel and identified maintenance work on Unit 2 equipment, many improvements are scheduled to support the request that PPL has made to increase the amount of electricity the plant can generate.

To complete this additional work, the number of workers coming to Susquehanna will exceed the usual increase for outages. Those workers help local businesses, spending money for food, lodging and other goods.

PPL conducts refueling outages in the spring, because electricity use is lower than in the winter and summer.



Siren tests

We conduct frequent tests of the sirens around Susquehanna. Once every three months, we sound sirens briefly in one of three areas. The schedule for upcoming sound tests is:

- Week of Jan. 1
- Week of Feb. 12
- Week of March 12

Donation helps students with math skills

Sixth-, seventh- and eighth-grade students at Berwick Area Middle School have new laptops for their computer lab thanks to a \$20,000 contribution from PPL Susquehanna.

Improving math and science education for local students is an objective PPL shares with the school district. It not only helps students perform better on standardized tests, it also prepares them for future careers in technology fields, such as nuclear power.

With PPL seeking to extend the operating licenses for the Susquehanna plant, the company expects to be a major employer in the area for years to come.

PPL Susquehanna made the donation to the nonprofit Central Susquehanna Community Foundation, which purchased the computers. PPL received an Educational Improvement Tax Credit under a Pennsylvania program that encourages businesses to partner with local schools and support educational improvements.



Lou Ramos (standing, left), community relations manager for PPL Susquehanna, joins sixth-grade students at the Berwick Area Middle School math laboratory with Holly Morrison, center, director of curriculum for the Berwick Area School District, and Eric DeWald, executive director of the Central Susquehanna Community Foundation.



Motorcyclists prepare for a benefit ride sponsored by PPL Susquehanna employees that raised \$845 for United Way.

Motorcycle ride helps United Way

The Berwick Area United Way benefited from a motorcycle ride sponsored by PPL Susquehanna employees. Twenty-six motorcyclists, including Susquehanna employees, retirees, family members and friends, raised \$845.

“The benefit ride is a great way for us to support our community while doing something we all enjoy,” said Dave Mitchell, a senior engineer at the plant and one of the trip’s organizers.

The round-trip ride began in Orangeville, headed west to Centre Hall and covered about 180 miles over scenic roads.



Donation for library



Berwick's new library will be taking shape soon, helped in part by a \$35,000 contribution from PPL Susquehanna, which is sponsoring the teen reading room. Library Executive Director Richard Miller (left) accepts the donation from Joe Scopelliti, supervisor of the Susquehanna Energy Information Center, at the Market Street site for the new library.



Joe Scopelliti, supervisor of the Susquehanna Energy Information Center, presents a check for \$10,000 to Stephanie Kessler of the Tri-Chamber Foundation to support business-education programs in the region's seven school districts. The donation, made under Pennsylvania's Educational Improvement Tax Credit program, is part of the Susquehanna plant's ongoing support for local schools.



PPL ENERGY INFO CENTER
634 SALEM BOULEVARD
BERWICK PA 18603-6465

Presorted Standard
U.S. Postage
PAID
Allentown, PA
Permit No. 104

Everyone in your home should review the emergency information in the blue pages of your telephone book.



Susquehanna Riverlands

Environmental Preserve

White Gold: The Lost Art of Harvesting Ice

Saturday, Jan. 27, 7-8:30 p.m.

Presented by Peter Tomasak, Historian and Author

From the 1700s through the early 20th century, ice was cut from our lakes, ponds and rivers, then used in homes to keep food from spoiling. Learn about the life and times of “ice miners” in stories, slides and vintage film footage of ice harvesting in the 1920s.

Basic Boating Safety Class

Saturday, Feb. 3, 8 a.m.-5 p.m.

Presented by Pennsylvania Fish and Boat Commission

The class has useful information for new and experienced boaters. Those who complete the course receive a

boating safety education certificate, which you must have to operate personal watercraft or motorboats of more than 10 horsepower. Advanced registration for the class is required. Call 570-542-2306. Bring a lunch and snacks.

Winter Survival and Fire Building

Sunday, Feb. 18, 2-3:30 p.m.

Presented by David Eyster, Survival Skills Expert

Outdoor enthusiasts should prepare for survival emergencies, particularly in winter when the temperature and wind chill factor increase the risk of hypothermia. David Eyster will discuss cold weather survival, including fire building techniques, and present an outdoor demonstration.

American Indian Artifact Exhibit

Saturday, Feb. 24, 9 a.m.-3 p.m.

The Pennsylvania Indian Artifact Collectors Association will exhibit tools, weapons, trade items and other artifacts.

We're Listening

If you would like to know more about any of the subjects covered in this issue, or if you have questions or comments about the plant, please call us at the Susquehanna Energy Information Center, 570-759-2281 or 570-542-2131.

Inside Susquehanna is published three times a year by PPL Susquehanna. For past issues, please visit our Web site at www.pplweb.com/seic.

The art of flint knapping — shaping of a piece of stone into a tool or weapon — will be demonstrated. You can bring artifacts to be identified.

For information about any Susquehanna Riverlands program, call 570-542-2306.