On September 24, 2019, the NRC issued an order approving the transfer of the LCBWR license back to plant owner Dairyland Power, which expects to complete the license transfer process by mid-2020. Upon transfer of the license back to Dairyland Power, the company will maintain La Crosse’s independent spent fuel storage facility, along with the reactor’s decommissioning trust fund.

In October 2019, EnergySolutions signed a contract with FirstEnergy subsidiaries GPU Nuclear, Metropolitan Edison Company, Jersey Central Power & Light Company, and Pennsylvania Electric Company to acquire all licenses and assets of Unit 2 at the Three Mile Island nuclear power plant, located near Middletown, Pa. Under the agreement, the plant, property, nuclear decommissioning trust fund, plant licenses, and responsibility for the decommissioning of TMI-2 would be transferred to EnergySolutions subsidiary TMI-2 Solutions. The agreement also facilitates applications to the Nuclear Regulatory Commission and the New Jersey Board of Public Utilities for approval of the transfer. According to FirstEnergy, if approved, the proposed transaction is expected to close in the second half of 2020.

The decommissioning work is to be performed by ES/Jingoli Decommissioning, a joint venture EnergySolutions formed with the New Jersey–based construction company Jingoli. TMI-2 experienced a partial meltdown on March 28, 1979. The reactor was placed in a safe and stable storage condition known as post-defueling monitored storage, and its nuclear fuel was moved to a storage facility at Idaho National Laboratory.

The Nuclear Regulatory Commission issued an order on November 26, 2019, approving the transfer of the operating licenses for the closed Zion nuclear power plant in Illinois from ZionSolutions, an EnergySolutions subsidiary, to its former owner and operator, Exelon Generation. The general license for Zion’s independent spent fuel storage installation will also transfer back to Exelon. Notice of the order was published in the December 6, 2019, Federal Register.

Exelon transferred the licenses for the two-unit Zion plant to ZionSolutions in 2009 for the purpose of decommissioning. According to the NRC, as of September 2019, the Zion site was in the final stages of radiological decommissioning, environmental remediation, and site restoration. ZionSolutions and Exelon requested the return transfer in July 2018, and the NRC determined that Exelon is qualified...