



NRC NEWS

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Updated

NRC Seeks Comment on Advanced Reactor Licensing Proposed Rule

The Nuclear Regulatory Commission is [seeking comment](#) on a proposed rule and draft guidance for a commercial nuclear power plant licensing process that uses risk insights to set performance standards applicable to any reactor technology. This is the first comprehensive regulatory framework, called Part 53, developed for advanced technologies and designs that includes non-light-water reactors.

The proposed rule will create a Part 53 section under the NRC's regulations (10 Code of Federal Regulations) as an alternative to the existing licensing approaches under Parts 50 and 52. The rule will give plant designers and plant operators flexibility in determining how their nuclear power plant will meet safety criteria. The proposed rule also modifies agency regulations for operator licensing, employee fitness-for-duty, physical security, and site access authorization among others.

NRC staff members will conduct a multi-day public meeting to answer questions on the proposed rule and supporting documents; meeting details will be available in the near future. During the meeting the staff will discuss sections of the proposed rule.

Comments can be submitted via [regulations.gov](#) under Docket ID NRC-2019-0062, via email to Rulemaking.Comments@nrc.gov, or via U.S. mail to Secretary, U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission, Washington, DC 20555-0001, ATTN: Rulemakings and Adjudications Staff. The comment period for this proposed rule closes on Dec. 30.