

About NRC **Nuclear Reactors** **Nuclear Materials** **Radioactive Waste** **Nuclear Security** **Public Meetings & Involvement**

How We Regulate

- [Rulemaking](#)
- [Guidance Development](#)
- [Generic Communications Program](#)
- [Standards Development](#)
- [Licensing](#)
- [Decommissioning](#)
- [Certification](#)
- [Inspection](#)
- [Assessment of Performance for Operating Facilities](#)
- [Enforcement](#)
- [Investigations](#)
- [Allegations](#)
- [Events Assessment](#)
- [Generic Issues](#)
- [Research](#)
- [Risk Assessment](#)
- [Performance Assessment for Waste Disposal and Decommissioning](#)
- [Advisory Activities](#)
- [CRGR Reviews](#)
- [Adjudication \(Hearings\)](#)

[Home](#) > [About NRC](#) > [How We Regulate](#) > [Licensing](#)

Licensing

Through the licensing process, the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) authorizes an applicant to conduct any or all of the following activities:

- Construct, operate, and decommission commercial reactors and fuel cycle facilities.
- Possess, use, process, export and import nuclear materials and waste, and handle certain aspects of their transportation.
- Site, design, construct, operate, and close waste disposal sites.

To become licensed for any of these activities (or to amend, renew, or transfer an existing license), an entity or individual submits an application to the NRC. The NRC staff reviews the submission, using standard review plans, to ensure that the applicant's assumptions are technically correct and that the proposed activities will not adversely affect the environment. For additional detail, see the [Additional Licensing Information](#) below, as well as the following pages:

- [License Fees](#)
- [Topical Reports](#)
-  [Public Involvement in Licensing](#)

Additional Licensing Information

Reactors	Materials
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Operating Reactors • Operator Licensing Process • New Reactors <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Combined License ○ Design Certification ○ Early Site Permit • Advanced Reactors 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Medical, Industrial, and Academic Uses of Nuclear Materials • Source Material Facilities • Uranium Recovery • Fuel Cycle Facilities • Nuclear Materials Transportation • Materials Environmental Reviews • Frequently Asked Questions About NRC's Role Under the National Environmental Policy Act
Radioactive Waste	Commodities
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Low-Level Waste Disposal • Waste Incidental to Reprocessing • High-Level Waste Disposal • Spent Fuel Storage 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Export-Import
<p>Licensing-Related Document Collections</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Regulatory Guides • Standard Technical Specifications 	

[TOP](#)