

From: [Burnell, Scott](#)
To: rmcphe8888@aol.com
Subject: RE: Your email to Chairman Svinicki
Date: Tuesday, April 23, 2019 8:41:00 AM

Dear Mr. McPherson:

Thank you for your letter to Chairman Svinicki regarding the NRC's review of the NuScale Power design for a small modular reactor.

The NRC has appropriately protected information NuScale has identified as proprietary, as well as any other information that meets the agency's requirements for withholding from public disclosure. The NRC makes all other information publicly available in our role as an open and transparent regulator.

The NRC is working diligently to maintain an appropriate technical review schedule for the NuScale application, with a completion goal of September 2020. This would be a 44-month effort, in line with the agency's goal of a 42-month review. The staff's work includes regular discussions with the company to ensure the agency has enough information to support a technically and legally supportable decision on the design. The NuScale design includes unique and innovative features compared to existing pressurized-water reactors. The NRC's mandate to maintain public health and safety requires the staff to carefully examine the evidence NuScale provides to show how those new, innovative features meet relevant regulatory requirements. If the staff's conclusions are favorable, the NRC's Commissioners will then consider a rule to certify the design – the Commissioners carry out such deliberations as promptly as possible.

The NRC staff continues to consider possibilities to increase review schedule efficiency, including these examples:

1. "[Response to Staff Requirements Memorandum M140910 – Staff Report: 10 CFR Part 52 Application Reviews - Efficiency Opportunities and Review Timelines](#)"; and
2. "[Paper on DC Reviews - Staff Report: 10 CFR Part 52 Application Reviews - Efficiency Opportunities and Review Timelines](#)".

Please feel free to contact me for additional information. Thank you.

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