

**From:** Robert Versluis <myvoice@oneclickpolitics.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, June 30, 2020 3:00 PM  
**To:** AdvancedReactors-GEIS Resource  
**Subject:** [External\_Sender] Small scale advanced nuclear power deserves a GEIS, Docket ID: NRC-2020-0101

Re: Small scale advanced nuclear power deserves a GEIS, Docket ID: NRC-2020-0101

Dear Nuclear Regulatory Commission,

I am writing in support of the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission's proposal to produce a generic environmental impact statement (GEIS) for small-scale advanced nuclear reactors. This action directly supports the NRC's primary mission to protect the public health and safety, by ensuring that small, clean, emission-free nuclear power plants can be effectively evaluated and brought online. There are several reasons supporting this effort, including:

- 1) NRC has decades of experience evaluating and overseeing small scale and advanced nuclear reactors (ANRs).
- 2) The category of advanced reactors covers a far wider variety of potential reactor designs than exist today. They feature inherent safety characteristics, lower required material resources, and avoidance of excessive natural watersheds use, leading to lower overall environmental impact. This allows ruling in a generic fashion on significant topic areas for these technology types.
- 3) There is significant basis for assuming small-scale ANRs would not be able to cause significant offsite radiation releases. The U.S. has had experience with literally hundreds of small-scale reactors without a single significant release.
- 4) Similarly, non-light-water-cooled microreactors such as contemplated in the GEIS would by definition have a dramatically smaller environmental footprint than large light water reactor (LWR) plants that are traditionally evaluated in large plant EIS analysis. These non LWR microreactors lend themselves to a generic evaluation.
- 5) Advanced reactors that utilize a fast spectrum are the only effective tool in the world to both produce clean electricity as well as reduce radioactive waste. In fact, they are key to closing the fuel cycle and turning current waste hazards into valuable assets to the public.
- 6) Small-scale ANRs will have significant positive impacts on environmental justice. Traditionally, dirty, polluting power plants have been located disproportionately on indigenous peoples' lands and in other communities of color. The ability to be more distributed and have smaller footprints allows for small, underprivileged, or remote communities to "opt-in" as opposed to having large plants forced upon them. The health effects of living near emissions sources should be accounted for in the generic environmental impact statement.

Nuclear power still provides the majority of U.S. emission-free power and, in cooperation with other clean electricity, represents the best option for scaling up clean electricity supply to meeting emissions targets. Streamlining the environmental review and licensing process for ANRs will be an important component to succeeding in this mission.

Thank you for continuing to ensure health and safety, in particular by enabling efficient review of clean power plants.

Sincerely,  
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266 Jeter St Redwood City, CA 94062 Constituent

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