

From: John Eddins <jeddins@achp.gov>
Sent: Wednesday, April 1, 2020 4:15 PM
To: Cushing, Jack
Cc: Davis, Jennifer; Willingham, Laura
Subject: [External_Sender] RE: [External] The NRC is preparing a Generic Environmental Impact Statement for Advanced Reactors

Thanks for the heads up, Jack.
I'll take a look at the Commission paper.
John

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From: Cushing, Jack [mailto:Jack.Cushing@nrc.gov]
Sent: Wednesday, April 01, 2020 3:42 PM
To: John Eddins
Cc: Jennifer Davis; Willingham, Laura
Subject: [External] The NRC is preparing a Generic Environmental Impact Statement for Advanced Reactors

John

I want to inform you that the NRC is preparing an advance nuclear reactor generic environmental impact statement (ANR GEIS) for small scale reactors. The staff conducted an exploratory process to determine if a GEIS for advanced reactors would be effective. Attached is the Commission paper 20-0020 that informed the Commission of the staff's approach.

An ANR GEIS would streamline the environmental review process for advanced nuclear reactor environmental reviews. The ANR GEIS would also determine which environmental impacts would result in essentially the same (generic) impact for various types of advanced nuclear power plants and which ones could result in different levels of environmental impacts requiring a plant-specific analysis. Environmental reviews for advanced nuclear reactor licenses would incorporate the ANR GEIS by reference and provide site-specific information in a supplemental EIS, thereby streamlining the environmental review process. The ANR GEIS will analyze the impacts to the various resources (land use, water use, aquatic and terrestrial, socioeconomic, etc.) and determine whether the impacts are generic or require a site specific evaluation. Construction and operation of a small scale ANR requires an application and a site specific SEIS. The SEIS will reference the impacts that were resolved generically in the ANR GEIS.

There is no construction or operation authorized by the ANR GEIS, and therefore no impact to historic resources. Because consultation under Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act for an advance reactor requires site specific information, it will not be done in the ANR GEIS, but will be conducted in the supplemental EIS, when an application is received and the site location is known. Likewise, the NEPA analysis of impacts to historic and cultural will be addressed in the site specific supplemental EIS. The NRC will in accordance with its Tribal Policy Statement reach out to Federally recognized Tribes during preparation of the ANR GEIS.

If you have any questions you can call me at 240-423-0704.

Jack Cushing

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