

# PUBLIC SUBMISSION

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Categorical Exclusions from Environmental Review

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Categorical Exclusions from Environmental Review

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## General Comment

I believe that this proposed rule has great benefits that need to be weighed with the potential consequences. Exclusions from EIS/review allows for quicker action on nuclear activity, but is seen by some as reckless deregulation of the industry. Stakeholder engagement is paramount for a successful process, especially when it comes to many aspects of the back-end of the fuel cycle relating to siting and storage. There should be careful thought to balance efforts to streamline processes for bringing new reactors and carbon-free technologies online while still maintaining public trust and confidence. This new proposition should largely be used to streamline efforts in areas with immediate net-gains for the environment, such as brownfield sites. Additionally, it should be used in identified Opportunity Zones (projects in areas that will provide an economically and/or environmentally disadvantaged area with significant investment, job, and health benefits to the site and its surroundings). I am in favor of this rule if it is used sparingly and wisely.