NRC Opens Hearing Opportunity for
Kairos Test Reactor Construction Permit Application

The Nuclear Regulatory Commission has published in the Federal Register a notice of opportunity to intervene in an adjudicatory hearing on Kairos Power’s application for a construction permit to build the “Hermes” test reactor at a site in Oak Ridge, Tennessee.

Petitions to intervene in a hearing must be filed by April 11, by anyone whose interest may be affected by the proposed issuance of a construction permit and who wants to participate as a party in the proceeding. More information on the hearing process is available on the NRC website.

Kairos submitted the first part of the application on Sept. 29, 2021, and the remainder on Oct. 31, 2021. The company indicated that it plans to build a 35-megawatt, non-power reactor, which uses molten salt to cool the reactor core. The test reactor would provide operational data to support development of a larger version meant for a commercial nuclear power plant. The company will need to submit a separate application for an operating license in the future.