



UNITED STATES
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20555-0001

March 6, 2023

ALL AGREEMENT AND NON-AGREEMENT STATES
STATE LIAISON OFFICERS
ALL FEDERALLY RECOGNIZED INDIAN TRIBES

ISSUANCE OF PROPOSED RULE AND NOTICE OF AVAILABILITY OF THE DRAFT
REVISED GENERIC ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT STATEMENT FOR LICENSE RENEWAL OF
NUCLEAR PLANTS (NUREG-1437, DRAFT REVISION 2) (STC-23-012)

Purpose: To inform States and Federally recognized Indian Tribes that the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) has published a proposed rule for public comment to amend the regulations that govern the NRC's environmental reviews of operating license renewal applications for nuclear power plants under the National Environmental Policy Act.

Background: The proposed rule titled "Renewing Nuclear Power Plant Operating Licenses – Environmental Review" would codify the revised generic findings of NUREG-1437, "Generic Environmental Impact Statement for License Renewal of Nuclear Power Plants," Revision 2 (LR GEIS) in Part 51 of Title 10 of the *Code of Federal Regulations* (10 CFR Part 51), "Environmental Protection Regulations for Domestic Licensing and Related Regulatory Functions." Additionally, the NRC is issuing for public comment the draft revised LR GEIS and associated guidance contained in Draft Regulatory Guide-4027, Supplement 1, Revision 2, "Preparation of Environmental Reports for Nuclear Power Plant License Renewal Applications," and Draft NUREG-1555, Supplement 1, Revision 2, "Standard Review Plans for Environmental Reviews for Nuclear Power Plants, Supplement 1: Operating License Renewal."

The LR GEIS analyzes the potential environmental impacts that may result from continued operation of a nuclear power plant during the renewal term (initial or subsequent license renewal). The purpose of the LR GEIS is to identify and evaluate environmental issues that could result in the same impact at all nuclear power plants (or a distinct subset of plants) (i.e., generic issues) and determine which issues could result in different levels of impact (i.e., nuclear plant-specific issues). For the issues that cannot not be evaluated generically, the NRC conducts nuclear power plant-specific environmental reviews and prepares plant-specific supplemental EISs to the LR GEIS. The NRC also considers any new and significant information for generic issues.

Discussion: Enclosed is the *Federal Register notice* "Renewing Nuclear Power Plant Operating Licenses – Environmental Review; Proposed Rule," 88 FR 13329 (March 3, 2023) requesting public comments on the proposed rule, draft revised LR GEIS, and associated guidance. If you wish to provide comments, please send via one of the methods below by May 2, 2023. Comments received after this date will be considered if it is practical to do so, but the NRC is only able to assure consideration for comments received on or before May 2, 2023. Comments may be submitted to the NRC by the following methods:

- Federal Rulemaking website: Go to <https://www.regulations.gov> and search for Docket ID NRC-2018-0296.
- Email comments to: Rulemaking.Comments@nrc.gov.
- Mail comments to: Secretary, U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission, Washington, DC 20555-0001, ATTN: Rulemakings and Adjudications Staff.

Additional information about methods for submitting your comments is available in the enclosed *Federal Register notice* and at [regulations.gov](https://www.regulations.gov) (NRC-2018-0296).

The NRC will conduct public meetings in five different locations to explain the changes in this proposed rule and to answer questions from the attendees to facilitate the development of public comments. The NRC will publish a notice of the location, time, and agenda of the meetings in the *Federal Register*, on [Regulations.gov](https://www.regulations.gov), and on the NRC's public meeting website within at least 10 calendar days before the meeting. Specific details about the meetings can be found in the NRC's public meeting webpage at <https://www.nrc.gov/pmns/mtg>.

If you have questions regarding this correspondence, please contact the individual named below:

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Sincerely,

Patricia K. Holahan, Director
Subsequent License Renewal Directorate
Office of Nuclear Material Safety
and Safeguards

Enclosure:
NRC *Federal Register* notice of
Proposed rule, draft guidance, and
draft LR GEIS; request for comment

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