



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

October 5, 2022

Dr. Adam Stein  
Director of Nuclear Energy Innovation  
The Breakthrough Institute  
436 14<sup>th</sup> Street, Suite 820  
Oakland, CA 94612

Dear Dr. Stein:

I am responding to your letter dated August 31, 2022, in which you requested an extension of the public comment period for the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission's (NRC's) proposed rulemaking on the "Risk-Informed, Technology-Inclusive Regulatory Framework for Advanced Reactors" (Part 53).

I want to thank you for taking the time to provide your comments on the rulemaking. To ensure that your comments become part of the official record for this rulemaking, your letter has been added to the Part 53 rulemaking docket (<https://www.regulations.gov/docket?D=NRC-2019-0062>).

The NRC has a long-standing practice of carrying out its mission in an open and transparent manner to keep the public informed of, and seek input on, the agency's regulatory, licensing, and oversight activities. We acknowledge your request to extend the comment period for the Part 53 preliminary proposed rule language and appreciate your interest in continued engagement.

To date, the NRC has engaged extensively with stakeholders on the subjects related to the Part 53 rulemaking. The NRC staff has held 17 public meetings since September 2020 to discuss the proposed rulemaking, and the comment period on the preliminary proposed rule language was open for 21 months. The NRC staff has also published several iterations of the Part 53 proposed preliminary rule language to encourage stakeholder engagement. The staff anticipates continued engagement with stakeholders over the coming months as it prepares the draft proposed rulemaking package for Commission consideration by February 2023. If approved by the Commission, the proposed rule will be formally issued for public comment. You will have the opportunity to comment on the proposed rule. Further, the staff will also engage stakeholders during that public comment period as it prepares the draft final rule for Commission decision.

Because of the extensive stakeholder engagement conducted to date, and because of the numerous opportunities for future engagement on this rulemaking, the staff has chosen not to extend the public comment period on the preliminary proposed rule language. We look forward to those public engagement opportunities and your valuable feedback in the future after the Commission has provided staff direction on the proposed rulemaking.

If you have any questions or need additional information, please contact me or Bob Beall at [Robert.Beall@nrc.gov](mailto:Robert.Beall@nrc.gov).

Sincerely,



Signed by Regan, Christopher  
on 10/05/22

Christopher M. Regan, Director  
Division of Rulemaking, Environmental,  
and Financial Support  
Office of Nuclear Material Safety  
and Safeguards

SUBJECT: LETTER TO A. STEIN, BREAKTHROUGH RE: PROPOSED RULEMAKING ON THE RISK-INFORMED, TECHNOLOGY-INCLUSIVE REGULATORY FRAMEWORK FOR ADVANCED REACTORS, DATED: OCTOBER 5, 2022

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