

**From:** [Carolyn Lauron](#)  
**To:** [Justin Hawkins](#)  
**Cc:** [Greg Cranston](#); [Jordan Glisan](#); [Michelle Hayes](#); [Andrew Brenner](#)  
**Subject:** NRC Staff Response to Follow-up Question re: RCS Flow Instrumentation  
**Date:** Friday, March 10, 2023 7:48:00 AM

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Hi Justin –

Please find the NRC staff response to the subject question below.  
Please let me know if you have questions or need additional information.

Thanks,  
Carolyn

**Background:**

12/19/22 E-mail to J. Hawkins, SMR, LLC re: NRC Staff Response to Clarification Question re: Reactor Coolant System Flow Instrumentation (ADAMS Accession No. ML23030B657)

Link: [https://adamswebsearch2.nrc.gov/webSearch2/main.jsp?](https://adamswebsearch2.nrc.gov/webSearch2/main.jsp?AccessionNumber=ML23030B657)

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**Follow-up Question:**

**Given RCS flow is not otherwise used for a safety-related function, the SMR-160 believes that RCS flow instrumentation is not required in the design.**

**Question:** Would the statement highlighted above, be considered a departure from NRC regulation(s) and/or guidance?

**NRC Staff Response:**

The NRC cannot provide a definitive response to the follow-up question because at this preapplication stage, a response would not be meaningful given the limited context and design information. The NRC's previous response provides guidance on how instrumentation may be classified consistent with its function and to inform a decision based on the maturity of the design. The NRC staff is available to provide an assessment of a White Paper with more details on the approach and design considerations at an appropriate time.