

**RESPONSE SHEET**

**TO:** Brooke P. Clark, Secretary  
**FROM:** Commissioner Caputo  
**SUBJECT:** COMSECY-23-0008: Request to Solicit for the Appointment of Two New Members on the Advisory Committee on Reactor Safeguards

Approved  Disapproved  Abstain  Not Participating

COMMENTS: Below  Attached  None

The NRC expects to receive several applications for new light-water and non-light-water reactor designs in the coming years, in addition to a steady number of licensing actions for the operating fleet. This workload will require that the Advisory Committee on Reactor Safeguards (ACRS) remains adequately staffed with members that have experience and expertise in several critical areas related to reactor safety. Failure to solicit for and staff the ACRS with new members risks aggravating the existing strains on the Committee's ability to perform timely reviews of significant licensing actions. Therefore, I approve the request to begin the solicitation process to add two new members to the ACRS, the corresponding draft *Federal Register* notice for this solicitation, as edited in the attached, and the draft press release, as edited in the attached.

The screening panel for review of nominations should take into account the applicants' ability/experience in identifying and focusing on risk-significant items in the performance of their duties. The panel may seek the advice of other individuals whose views may be useful in this area.

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**Signature**

**Entered in STARS**

Yes   
No

**NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION  
SEEKS QUALIFIED CANDIDATES FOR APPOINTMENT TO  
THE ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON REACTOR SAFEGUARDS**

AXC Edits

**AGENCY:** Nuclear Regulatory Commission

**ACTION:** Request for resumes.

**SUMMARY:** The U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) seeks qualified candidates for appointment to the Advisory Committee on Reactor Safeguards (ACRS or Committee). Submit resumes to Sandra Walker, ACRS, Mail Stop: T2B50, U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission, Washington, DC 20555-0001, or e-mail [Sandra.Walker@nrc.gov](mailto:Sandra.Walker@nrc.gov).

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** The ACRS is a part-time advisory group; ~~that~~<sup>which</sup> is statutorily mandated by the Atomic Energy Act of 1954, as amended. The ACRS provides independent expert advice on matters related to the safety of existing and proposed nuclear reactor facilities and on the adequacy of proposed reactor safety standards. Of primary importance are the safety issues associated with the operation of commercial nuclear power plants in the United States and regulatory initiatives, including risk-informed and performance-based regulation, license renewal, new licensing applications for non-light-water reactors, and the use of mixed oxide and high burnup fuels. In addition, the ACRS may be requested to provide advice on radiation protection, radioactive waste management, and earth sciences in the agency's licensing reviews for fuel fabrication and enrichment facilities, and for waste disposal facilities. The ACRS also has some involvement in security matters related to the

integration of safety and security of commercial reactors. See the NRC website at <https://www.nrc.gov/about-nrc/regulatory/advisory/acrs.html> for additional information about the ACRS.

An increased emphasis is being given to engineering and safety issues associated with new light-water and non-light-water reactor designs and technologies, including topics related to: neutronics and reactor kinetics analyses; reactor physics and fuel management, integrated reactor systems analysis and performance; nuclear fuels, chemistry, and engineering materials (including application of probabilistic methods and non-destructive examination techniques); and structural and seismic design.

Criteria used to evaluate candidates include education and experience, demonstrated skills in nuclear reactor safety matters, the ability to solve complex technical problems, and the ability to work collegially on a board, panel, or committee. The Commission, in selecting its Committee members, also considers the need for specific expertise to accomplish the work expected to be before the ACRS. ACRS members are appointed for four-year terms with no term limits. The Commission looks to appoint two members to the Committee as a result of this request.

Candidates are desired that have broad, extensive experience in nuclear safety, such as multiple areas of current emphasis (listed in the second paragraph under **SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION**) or similar fields of nuclear reactor and nuclear fuel cycle safety. Candidates with broad nuclear safety experience in industry, academia, laboratory, or regulatory backgrounds, or work between those environments, are encouraged to apply. The candidates should also have at least 20 years of education and broad experience and a distinguished record of achievement in one or more areas of nuclear science and technology or related engineering disciplines. Candidates with pertinent graduate level experience will be given

additional consideration, and candidates with relevant experience and a distinguished record who do not quite meet the 20-year threshold are also encouraged to apply.

Consistent with the requirements of the Federal Advisory Committee Act, the Commission seeks candidates with diverse backgrounds, so that the membership on the Committee is fairly balanced in terms of the points of view represented and functions to be performed by the Committee. Candidates will undergo a thorough security background check to obtain the security clearance that is mandatory for all ACRS members. The security background check will involve the completion and submission of paperwork to the NRC. Candidates for ACRS appointment may be involved in or have financial interests related to NRC-regulated aspects of the nuclear industry. However, because conflict-of-interest considerations may restrict the participation of a candidate in ACRS activities, the degree and nature of any such restriction on an individual's activities as a member will be considered in the selection process. Each qualified candidate's financial interests must be reconciled with applicable Federal and NRC rules and regulations prior to final appointment. This might require divestiture of securities or discontinuance of certain contracts or grants. Information regarding these restrictions will be provided upon request. As a part of the Stop Trading on Congressional Knowledge Act of 2012, which bans insider trading by members of Congress, their staff, and other high-level federal employees, candidates for appointment will be required to disclose additional financial transactions.

A resume describing the educational and professional background of each candidate, including any special accomplishments, publications, and professional references should be provided. Candidates should provide their current address, telephone number, and e-mail address. All candidates will receive careful consideration. The NRC does not discriminate in employment on the basis of race, color, religion, sex (including pregnancy and gender identity), national origin,

political affiliation, sexual orientation, marital status, disability, genetic information, age, membership in an employee organization, retaliation, parental status, military service, or other non-merit factor. Candidates must be citizens of the United States and be able to devote approximately 100 days per year to Committee business, but may not be compensated for more than 130 calendar days. Appointees may be able to attend some Committee meetings virtually. Resumes will be accepted until **[INSERT DATE 90 DAYS AFTER DATE OF PUBLICATION IN THE FEDERAL REGISTER]**.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

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Brooke P. Clark  
Secretary of the Commission

# OPA DRAFT

(Source: ACRS –Sandra Walker)

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## **NRC Advisory Committee on Reactor Safeguards Seeks to Fill Open Positions**

The Nuclear Regulatory Commission’s Advisory Committee on Reactor Safeguards is seeking to fill two open positions with qualified candidates who would bring broad experience in nuclear safety to this advisory group. The ACRS provides independent technical review of, and advice on, matters related to the safety of existing and proposed nuclear facilities, and on the adequacy of proposed reactor safety standards. It also advises the Commission on issues in health physics and radiation protection.

Candidates must have experience in multiple areas of the NRC’s current emphasis on safety issues associated with new light-water and non-light-water reactor designs and technologies, or similar fields of nuclear reactor and nuclear fuel cycle safety. ~~especially those e~~Candidates with broad nuclear safety experience in industry, academia, laboratory, or regulatory backgrounds are encouraged to apply. The best-qualified candidates will have at least 20 years of specific experience in those areas, as well as considerable broad experience and a distinguished record of achievement in one or more areas of nuclear science and technology or a related engineering discipline.

Interested individuals can find candidate criteria and details in the *Federal Register* notice [LINK TO FRN] published today and available on the NRC [website](#). Resumes will be accepted until [30 days later].

Resumes should be sent to Sandra Walker, ACRS, Mail Stop T2B50, U.S.

Nuclear Regulatory Commission, Washington, DC 20555-0001, or e-mail [to](mailto:Sandra.Walker@nrc.gov)

[Sandra.Walker@nrc.gov](mailto:Sandra.Walker@nrc.gov). For more information on the ACRS go to the NRC [website](#).