



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

February 11, 2025

Andrew Sowder, Ph.D., Chair
Standards Board, American Nuclear Society
Electric Power Research Institute

Todd Anselmi, Vice Chair
Standards Board, American Nuclear Society
Idaho National Laboratory

**SUBJECT: INPUT TO SUPPORT ENHANCING THE CODES AND STANDARDS
PROGRAM FOR NEW AND ADVANCED REACTORS**

Dear Dr. Sowder and Mr. Anselmi:

Seventy-four staff at the Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) currently support the development of consensus standards issued by the American Nuclear Society (ANS) through the NRC's Codes and Standards Program. This includes active participation in the following: Environmental and Siting Consensus Committee (ESCC); Fuel, Waste, and Decommissioning Consensus Committee (FWDCC); Large Light Water Reactor Consensus Committee (LLWRCC); Nonreactor Nuclear Facilities Consensus Committee (NRNFCC); Nuclear Criticality Safety Consensus Committee (NCSCC), Research & Advanced Reactors Consensus Committee (RARCC); Risk-informed, Performance-based Principles and Policy Committee (RP3C); and Safety and Radiological Analyses Consensus Committee (SRACC). Additional NRC staff support the ASME/ANS Joint Committee on Nuclear Risk Management (JCNRM).

Nuclear plant design today is working at a scope and pace not seen in decades, and with broad industry and bipartisan political support. Reactor developers are revisiting old technologies and pioneering new ones. The NRC is currently reviewing new and advanced reactor applications, and efforts to develop new and revised consensus standards are occurring in tandem with these first-of-a-kind designs. These future consensus standards can bridge the intersection of new and advanced reactor design, licensing and construction. Timely review and endorsement of new or revised standards may provide for efficiency, in both licensing and construction, supporting serial deployment, so-called Nth-of-a-kind reactors, accounting for the enhanced safety of many reactor designs.

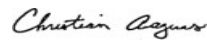
In April 2024, the NRC and the Idaho National Laboratory co-hosted a workshop to solicit ideas for enhancing the effectiveness of NRC's codes and standards program. The workshop was successful at bringing together a wide number of experts, including Mr. Todd Anselmi who spoke on behalf of ANS Standards and their standards development activities for advanced reactors. His presentation can be found at Agencywide Documents Access and Management System (ADAMS) Accession Number [ML24093A002](#).

During this workshop, the staff collected extensive feedback that was subsequently distilled and synthesized by NRC staff into an Action Plan published in August 2024. The published Action Plan can be found in ADAMS at [ML24234A013](#). Action Plan items 1.1 and 3.1 direct the NRC staff to solicit input on codes and standards that are a priority to the new and advanced reactor community. Action Plan items 1.2 and 3.2 then direct the NRC staff to prioritize engagement with the committees of Standards Development Organizations responsible for these codes and standards.

The purpose of this letter is to request your input on ANS standards that are considered a high priority need for the new and advanced reactor community. As you develop this input, I request consideration of ANS standards that are developed in partnership with other standards organizations (e.g., dual-logo). Your response to this request will facilitate NRC's prioritization of codes and standards activities and help ensure appropriate and continued NRC staff support of such activities in the future.

A response within 60-days would be appreciated as Action Plan items 1.1, 1.2, 3.1, and 3.2 are targeted for completion by the end of 2025.

Sincerely,



Signed by Araguas, Christian
on 02/11/25

Christian Araguas, Standards Executive
Director, Division of Engineering
Office of Nuclear Regulatory Research

Enclosures: None

Standards Development Organization Letters on Priority Codes and Standards - ANS DATE February 11, 2025

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