



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

April 28, 2025

MEMORANDUM TO: Michael Waters, Acting Division Director
Division of Preparedness and Response
Office of Nuclear Security and Incident Response

FROM: Cindy Rosales-Cooper, Acting Chief signature
Policy and Oversight Branch
Division of Preparedness and Response
Office of Nuclear Security and Incident Response

Signed by Rosales-Cooper,
on 04/28/25

SUBJECT: SUMMARY OF MARCH 5, 2025, NRC PUBLIC
WORKSHOP ON THE EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS FOR
ADVANCED REACTORS

On March 5, 2025, the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) staff held a virtual public workshop on emergency preparedness for advanced reactors. The workshop consisted of presentations from NRC staff followed by a question-and-answer period and a request for topics for future workshops.

Enclosures:

- 1) Summary of NRC Public Workshop: Emergency Preparedness for Advanced Reactors
- 2) List of Attendees

CONTACT: Kylar Coleman-Foley, NSIR/DPR/POB

SUBJECT: SUMMARY OF MARCH 5, 2025, NRC PUBLIC
WORKSHOP ON EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS FOR ADVANCED
REACTORS

DATED: April 28, 2025

M. Waters

DISTRIBUTION:
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ADAMS Accession Nos.
Package, ML25092A114
Meeting Notice, [ML25044A448](#)
Meeting Presentation, ML25064A348
Meeting Summary, ML25093A224

OFFICE	NSIR/DPR/POB	NSIR/DPR/POB/PM	NSIR/DPR/POB/PM	NSIR/DPR/RLB	NSIR/DPR
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DATE	04/09/2025	04/09/2025	04/11/2025	04/17/25	
OFFICE	NSIR/DPR/POB/BC	NSIR/DPR			
NAME	C. Rosales-Cooper				
DATE	04/28/2025				

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**SUMMARY OF NRC PUBLIC WORKSHOP: EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS FOR
ADVANCED REACTORS**

DATE AND TIME: March 5, 2025, 9:00 AM – 12:00 PM

LOCATION: Virtual Webinar

MEETING PARTICIPANTS: Enclosure 2

SUMMARY

On March 5, 2025, staff from the Division of Preparedness and Response (DPR) in the Office of Nuclear Security and Incident Response (NSIR) held a virtual public workshop to discuss emergency preparedness (EP) for advanced reactors.

The purpose of the meeting was to: 1) have NRC staff explain the NRC's approach to EP for advanced reactors; 2) discuss lessons learned from licensing experience; 3) update the public on the status of relevant EP rulemakings and EP-related guidance; 4) answer questions from stakeholders and solicit feedback for future workshops. The NRC staff presentations are summarized below and are publicly available in ADAMS (ML25064A348).

NRC staff presented on a variety of topics encompassing all aspects of EP for advanced reactors. The first presentation, *NRC approach to emergency preparedness* set the foundation for follow-on topics. The staff explained the purpose of EP as part of the NRC philosophy of defense-in-depth and described how risk-informed, performance-based EP regulations are consistent with long standing EP policy. The next presentation, *Applying Lessons Learned from Licensing Experience*, focused on key considerations for emergency preparedness in licensing applications. NRC staff emphasized the need for applicants and licensees to ensure the capability to implement and recommend protective actions—as required by regulation—even when the Emergency Planning Zone (EPZ) does not extend beyond the site boundary.

Additionally, NRC staff highlighted the importance of a rigorous justification when using probabilistic risk assessment (PRA) for EPZ determinations, ensuring that low-frequency but high-consequence events are not excluded, but are appropriately risk-informed. The presentation concluded by underscoring the benefits of referencing NRC-endorsed guidance to strengthen applications and mitigate regulatory uncertainty. If alternative methods are used, applicants must ensure the approach is well-supported to avoid potential licensing delays. The third presentation covered the status of EP rulemakings relevant to advanced reactors. This was followed by an update of key EP guidance activities, the enhancements to Regulatory Guide 1.242, and the ADVANCE Act implications for micro-reactor EP. The final presentation covered the research currently being conducted to support updates to EP guidance.

The NRC staff held a public question and answer session and the staff requested topics for future EP presentations and workshops.

ACTION ITEMS

During the workshop, attendees requested access to the NRC presentation materials. The presentation has been uploaded and declared in ADAMS as publicly available, and published on the official meeting notice (ADAMS Accession No. ML25064A348).

The following future workshops were suggested: 1) Guidance on Emergency Action Level Development, 2) Guidance on the Spectrum of Accident Selection, 3) Guidance on Emergency Planning Zone Determinations for Advanced Reactors

PRINCIPAL CONTRIBUTORS

Todd Smith, Senior Level Advisor, Division of Preparedness and Response, NRC/NSIR/DPR

Eric Schrader, Emergency Preparedness Specialist, NRC/NSIR/DPR

Charles Murray, Emergency Preparedness Specialist, NRC/NSIR/DPR

Edward Robinson, Senior Emergency Preparedness Specialist, NRC/NSIR/DPR

List of Attendees

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