

Regulatory Guide Periodic Review

Regulatory Guide Number: 2.2, Revision 0

Title: Development of Technical Specifications for Experiments in Research Reactors

Office/Division/Branch: NRR/DANU/UNPL

Technical Lead: Cindy Montgomery

Staff Action Decided: Reviewed with no issues identified

1. What are the known technical or regulatory issues with the current version of the Regulatory Guide (RG)?

Regulatory Guide 2.2, "Development of Technical Specifications for Experiments in Research Reactors," published in November 1973, and reaffirmed on March 10, 2016, establishes the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission's (NRC) position for an acceptable approach to the evaluation of experimental programs as well as considerations that should be addressed to define limits and other requirements to be included in the technical specifications for research reactors.

The Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation (NRR) staff did not identify any technical or regulatory issues that may warrant a revision of the current version of RG 2.2 at this time. All the regulation references in RG 2.2 are current. However, the NRR staff identified minor issues, primarily editorial or for clarification that could be addressed in a future revision but do not warrant the need for a revision.

In addition, there is a standard guidance document NUREG-1537, "Guidelines for Preparing and Reviewing Applications for the Licensing of Non-Power Reactors," which the research and test reactor (RTR) applicants use to prepare their applications and the NRC staff primarily uses to conduct its reviews. NUREG-1537 was published in February 1996 and it references RG 2.2 as supplemental guidance to NUREG-1537 regarding technical specification and experimental programs that may be useful to the applicants. RG 2.2 is included in Appendix 10.1 in NUREG-1537.

2. What is the impact on internal and external stakeholders of not updating the RG for the known issues, in terms of anticipated numbers of licensing and inspection activities over the next several years?

There are no technical or regulatory issues identified that would impact licensing activities for RTRs if RG 2.2 is not updated at this time.

3. What is an estimate of the level of effort needed to address identified issues in terms of full-time equivalent (FTE) and contractor resources?

Although there are no technical or regulatory issues identified during the review of RG 2.2, the NRR staff identified minor issues, primarily editorial or for clarification that could be addressed in a future revision. The staff anticipates approximately 0.05 FTE to complete documentation of the technical evaluation of the underlying issues that are primarily editorial.

4. Based on the answers to the questions above, what is the staff action for this guide (Reviewed with no issues identified, Reviewed with issues identified for future consideration, Revise, or Withdraw)?

Reviewed with no issues identified.

5. Provide a conceptual plan and timeframe to address the issues identified during the review.

The NRR staff did not identify any technical or regulatory issues in the review that warrant a revision to the RG at this time.

NOTE: This review was conducted in January 2026 and reflects the staff's plans as of that date. These plans are tentative and are subject to change.