

NRC Public Meeting



Executive Order 14300: Modernizing Reactor Licensing, Safety Oversight, and Siting Practices: Part 2 of 3

August 5, 2026

Agenda

- ☐ Meeting Logistics
- ☐ Introductions
- ☐ NRC Presentations
- ☐ Public Q&A



Meeting Logistics

- ☐ Meeting Type: Information Meeting
- ☐ **Comments must be submitted in writing.** We will not be accepting comments on the proposed rule during this meeting
- ☐ Participants are in listen-only mode until the designated question and answer period
- ☐ Please follow meeting participation guidelines
- ☐ No regulatory decisions will be made at today's meeting

Purpose

The purpose of today's meeting is to inform the public about Executive Order (EO) 14300 proposed rule: "Modernizing Reactor Licensing, Safety Oversight, and Siting Practices."

This meeting is Part 2 of a three-part series. Today's discussion will focus on proposed changes related to making current regulations technology inclusive, risk-informed, and performance based.

Modernizing Reactor Licensing, Safety Oversight, and Siting Practices

Mike Franovich	Director	Office of Nuclear Regulatory Research
Tania Martinez Navedo	Director, Division of Engineering and Risk Analysis	Office of Nuclear Regulatory Research
Jennifer Whitman	Director, Division of Risk Assessment and Safety Systems	Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

NRC Mission Statement

The NRC protects public health and safety and advances the nation's common defense and security by enabling the safe and secure use and deployment of civilian nuclear energy technologies and radioactive materials through efficient and reliable licensing, oversight, and regulation for the benefit of society and the environment.

Structured Approach to Rule Development

PARTITIONING

Executive Order (E.O.) 14300 was divided into discrete areas of expertise for working group assessment and development.

COORDINATION

Centralized project management organization maintained consistency across discrete rule packages.

ALIGNMENT

Working groups secured agreement with senior leaders early in rule development to expedite later leadership review.

PARTNERSHIP

Staff has engaged the Commissioners and the Commissioners' staff through multiple, layered interactions on each rule to maximize understanding.

Modernizing Reactor Licensing, Safety Oversight, and Siting Practices: Part 2 of 3

Determinate and Data Backed Thresholds for Reactor Safety Assessments

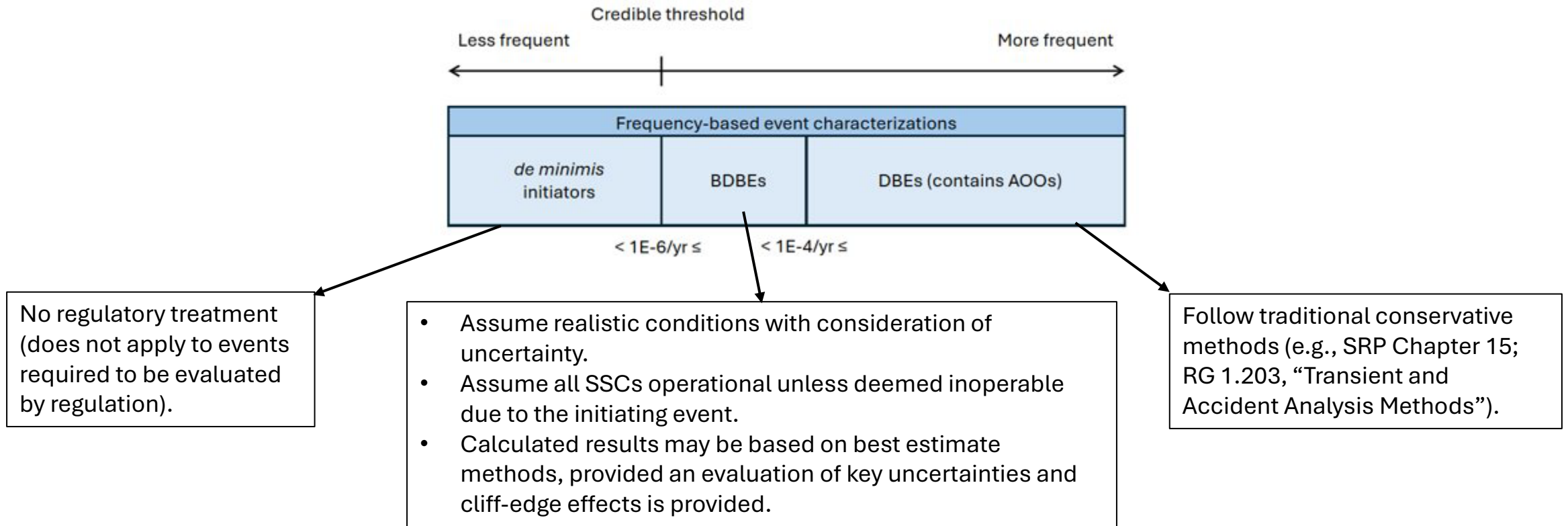
Affected 10 CFR Parts: 50.2 & 50.49

Overview:

- ☐ Adds new Design Basis Event and Beyond Design Basis Event (DBE/BDBE) definitions based on initiating event frequency
- ☐ Updates 50.49 to align with revised DBE terminology
- ☐ Implementing guidance 1) establishes determinate and data-backed thresholds for categorizing events into defined bins, 2) outlines graded assessment approaches for DBEs and BDBEs, and 3) clarifies the process for selecting “design bases” controlling parameters used as reference bounds in the design of SSCs.

No FRN Questions

Determinate and Data Backed Thresholds for Reactor Safety Assessments



Part 50.55a Changes and IEEE 323 Reference

Affected 10 CFR Parts: 50.55a, 50.49

Overview:

- ☐ Expands scope of alternatives allowed for greater flexibility.
- ☐ Addresses inefficiencies in current approval process.
- ☐ Eliminates need for exemption processes caused by existing scope limitations.
- ☐ Removes the citation linking “safety-related” to “Class 1E,” since existing guidance already covers it.

No FRN Questions

Increased Enrichment of Conventional and Accident Tolerant Fuel Designs for Light-Water Reactors

Affected 10 CFR Parts: 50.46, 50.46a/b, 50.67, 50.68, 50.69; Part 50 App A & K; 51.51, 51.52; 52.54; Part 52 App G; 71.55

Overview:

- ☐ Updates enrichment limits, ECCS criteria, control-room dose, and criticality rules
- ☐ Revises environmental tables and transport requirements

FRN Questions (11 Total): The NRC is seeking input about the clarity and predictability of the proposed changes, the effectiveness and appropriateness of proposed inspections, advantages and disadvantages of new alternatives, how a graded approach can be applied to reporting and if the rule is sufficiently flexible to apply to novel designs and whether alternative criteria should be used.

Risk-Informing 10 CFR 50.59 and Allowing Flexibility for Changes to Methods

Affected 10 CFR Parts: 50.59, 50.221 (new), 53.1550

Overview:

- ☐ Allows use of quantitative risk results to show that a plant change causes no more than a minimal increase in frequency of accident or likelihood of equipment malfunction
- ☐ Facilitates the use of new and advanced computational models through NRC-approved Verification Validation and Uncertainty Quantification programs

FRN Questions: The NRC is seeking input whether the proposed change works for facilities using digital systems.

Alternative Risk-Informed and Performance-Based Acceptance Criteria for all Part 50 and 52 Regulations

Affected 10 CFR Parts: 50.220 (new), 52.220 (new); Part 50 App A (GDC intro & GDC 28)

Overview:

- ☐ Creates optional risk-informed alternatives to specific acceptance criteria
- ☐ Lower entry threshold than an exemption - no special circumstances required
- ☐ Additional guardrails on use compared to an exemption:
 - Applies only to acceptance criteria vs. any portion of the regulation
 - Must satisfy several risk-informed criteria
 - Higher safety threshold for approval (same level of safety) vs. exemption (no undue risk)
- ☐ Updates GDCs to support alternative analysis approaches

FRN Question: The NRC is seeking input regarding possible approaches to increase flexibility for licensees and applicants to adopt previously approved alternatives.

Submitting Comments

- NRC will consider information and perspectives discussed today, but comments must be submitted in writing through the methods described in the Federal Register notice to receive formal consideration in the rulemaking.
- Federal Rulemaking Website: Go to <https://www.regulations.gov> and search for Docket ID NRC-2025-0975.

Timeline/Dates

- Proposed rule published in the *Federal Register* on July 16, 2026 (91 FR 44560)
 - 46-day public comment period ends on August 31, 2026
- NRC will consider public comments submitted under Docket ID NRC-2025-0975.
- Estimated date to publish final rule in the *Federal Register*: December 2026 ([NRC Planned Rulemaking Activities](#))

Questions and Comments



Participation Guidelines



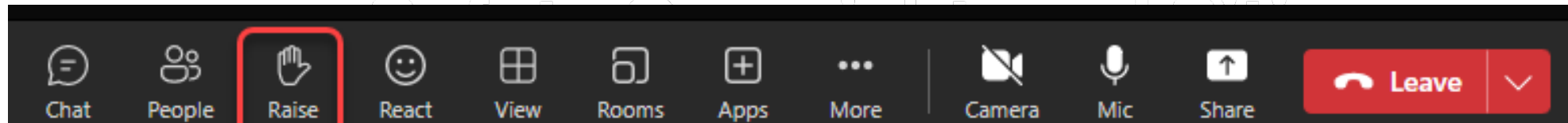
- ☐ Hoping to hear from as many participants as possible
- ☐ Listen-only mode unless acknowledged to speak
- ☐ Maintain a cordial and professional environment
- ☐ No regulatory decisions will be made

Modernizing Reactor Licensing,
Safety Oversight, and Siting
Practices: Part 1 of 3

Virtual Participation



- 1) Raise your virtual hand to indicate your desire to be recognized
 - Teams: Use the “Raise my Hand” button
 - Phone: Press “*5”

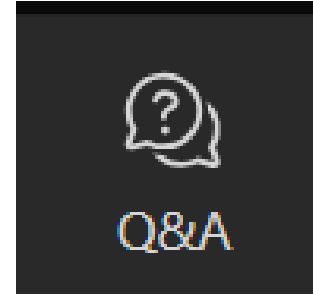


- 2) Wait for the facilitator to acknowledge your turn to speak
- 3) Unmute yourself
 - Teams: Use the “unmute/mic” button
 - Phone: Press “*6”



Virtual Participation Alternative

- 1) Provide questions using the “Q&A” feature:



- 2) We will get to as many questions as we are able
- 3) Because of limitations involving Teams, certain participants may only be able to provide their questions using the Q&A feature. We apologize for this unavoidable limitation.

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Date/Time	Purpose	Location	Contact
* Date/Time Change *	Meeting info The purpose of the meeting is to follow-up discussions	Webinar NA	John G. Lamb (301) 415-3100

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Closing Remarks

- Submit comments on <https://www.regulations.gov> and search for Docket ID NRC-2025-0975.
- Proposed Rule published on July 16, 2026 (91 FR 44560)
- 46-day public comment period ends on August 31, 2026



Thank you for joining us today