

NRC NEWS

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Corrected NRC Issues Direct Final Rule to Certify Korean APR1400 Reactor

Corrected to note that the rule will become effective 120 days following the publication in the Federal Register.

The Nuclear Regulatory Commission will issue a direct final rule certifying Korea Electric Power Corporation and Korea Hydro & Nuclear Power's Advanced Power Reactor 1400. The certification, valid for 15 years, will state that the NRC finds the design fully acceptable for U.S. use.

The two companies submitted an application Dec. 23, 2014, to certify the APR1400 for use in the United States. The design, as approved, would produce approximately 1,400 megawatts of electricity. The APR1400 features enhanced systems to safely shut down the reactor or mitigate the effects of an accident. Full certification allows a utility to reference the design when applying for a Combined License to build and operate a nuclear power plant. Absent adverse comments, the rule will become effective 120 days following publication in the Federal Register.

The NRC has certified five other designs: the Advanced Boiling Water Reactor, System 80+, AP600, AP1000, and the Economic Simplified Boiling Water Reactor. The staff is reviewing applications to certify two other designs: the U.S. Advanced Pressurized Water Reactor and the NuScale small modular reactor. The staff is also reviewing an application to renew the ABWR certification. More information about the APR1400 design review is available on the NRC's website.