



NRC NEWS

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NRC Completes Safety Review of Construction Permit Application For Kemmerer Power Station in Wyoming

The Nuclear Regulatory Commission staff has completed its [final safety evaluation](#) for the application submitted by TerraPower, on behalf of its subsidiary US SFR Owner, to build Kemmerer Power Station Unit 1 in Kemmerer, Wyoming. The evaluation concludes there are no safety aspects that would preclude issuing the construction permit.

“We’ve finished our technical work on the Kemmerer review a month ahead of our [already accelerated](#) schedule, as we aim to make licensing decisions for new, advanced reactors in no more than 18 months,” said Jeremy Groom, acting director of the NRC’s Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation. “We thank TerraPower for promptly addressing the agency’s questions to ensure safety and enable the NRC to efficiently process the application.”

The staff will provide the safety evaluation and the [final environmental impact statement](#) to the Commission for the final phase of the licensing process in the coming weeks. The Commission will determine whether the staff’s review supports the findings necessary to issue the permit. Following its deliberations, the Commission will vote on whether to direct the staff to issue the permit.

The NRC’s Advisory Committee on Reactor Safeguards independently reviewed new and novel safety-related aspects of the Kemmerer Power Station Unit 1 application. The committee provided the results of its [review](#) to the Commission on Nov. 16.

TerraPower filed the [application](#) in March 2024, requesting a permit to build the sodium-cooled, advanced reactor design on a site near an existing coal-fired power plant. The NRC staff accepted the application and began its formal review in May 2024. The 345-megawatt electric (MWe) plant includes an energy storage system to temporarily boost output up to 500 MWe, when needed. If the NRC ultimately issues the permit, US SFR Owner would need to submit a separate operating license application before it would be authorized to operate the facility. More information about [new reactor licensing](#) is available on the NRC website.

The U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission was created as an expert, technical agency to protect public health, safety, and security, and regulate the civilian use of nuclear materials, including enabling the deployment of nuclear power for the benefit of society. Among other responsibilities, the agency issues licenses, conducts inspections, initiates and enforces regulations, and plans for incident response. The global gold standard for nuclear regulation, the NRC is collaborating with interagency partners to implement reforms outlined in new Executive Orders and the ADVANCE Act to streamline agency activities and enhance efficiency.