



NRC NEWS

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NRC Launches Accelerated Review of Radiant's Application for Special Nuclear Material License

ROCKVILLE, Md. — The Nuclear Regulatory Commission has [accepted](#) an application from Radiant for a special nuclear materials license for its R-50 microreactor facility site in Oak Ridge, Tennessee. The action marks a key step toward deploying a new generation of smaller, advanced reactors in the United States. Radiant is part of the Department of Energy's pilot reactor program and has indicated it plans to submit a separate application to the NRC for their [Kaleidos reactor](#) in the future.

The NRC will review the application on an expedited timeline with a goal of completing its work within eight months, approximately 55% faster than the standard schedule for this type of review.

"This accelerated review reflects the NRC's commitment to enabling advanced reactor technologies while maintaining our broader effort to improve efficiency and upholding our rigorous safety standards," NRC Chairman Ho K. Nieh said.

The Fueling Building at the R-50 facility will support the handling of special nuclear material for Radiant's Kaleidos microreactors.

The NRC's review will include a detailed safety evaluation and an environmental assessment to ensure the proposed activities meet NRC requirements for protecting public health and the environment. Radiant submitted its [application](#) on February 25, 2026, and provided additional information in [March](#) and [April](#). [More information](#) about Radiant can be found on the NRC's 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 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.