



# NRC NEWS

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## EO14300 Rulemaking

### **NRC Proposes Major Update to Rules for Medical and Industrial Radioactive Materials**

**ROCKVILLE, Md.**—The Nuclear Regulatory Commission today proposed sweeping updates to its rules governing the use of radioactive materials in medicine, industry and research, aimed at maintaining strong safety protections while reducing unnecessary regulatory burden.

The [proposed rule](#) would streamline licensing for widely used activities such as medical imaging, cancer diagnostics, industrial radiography and well logging, making it faster and more predictable for professionals to operate without compromising safety.

It would also reduce paperwork for low-risk products and modernize requirements to better reflect current technologies and risk levels.

“This proposal reflects a smarter, more modern approach to regulation, one that maintains our high safety standards while making it easier to deliver important medical, industrial and research benefits,” said NRC Chairman Ho Nieh.

What’s changing:

- **Faster, simpler licensing** for common uses through a new class of general licenses
- **Updated financial assurance thresholds** aligned with today’s risk profile
- **Clearer, more flexible pathways** for medical and research applications
- **Reduced paperwork** for low-risk consumer and commercial products
- **Improved access to medical technologies**, including greater flexibility for PET isotope distribution
- **Less duplicative oversight** for companies operating across Agreement States and NRC jurisdictions

NRC has also developed plain-language guidance, guidance on reciprocity, and draft implementation tools to help applicants and licensees navigate the proposed changes. The Federal Register notice is slated for May 20, but that date is subject to change.

*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.*