



NRC NEWS

Office of Public Affairs, Headquarters

Washington, DC. 20555-0001
www.nrc.gov ■ opa.resource@nrc.gov



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CONTACT: [Office of Public Affairs](#), 301-415-8200

EO14300 Rulemaking

NRC Proposes Rule Changes to Accelerate Advanced Nuclear Fuel Infrastructure

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ROCKVILLE, Md. — The Nuclear Regulatory Commission today [proposed](#) sweeping changes to fuel-cycle and materials licensing regulations, including a streamlined licensing pathway for reprocessing facilities and updated requirements for advanced reactor fuels aimed at accelerating deployment of next-generation nuclear technologies.

The proposed rule is intended to reduce regulatory barriers and accelerate development of the fuel infrastructure needed to support next-generation nuclear energy technologies.

“America is rebuilding the front end of the nuclear fuel cycle at a pace not seen in decades,” Chairman Ho K. Nieh said. “These proposed rules support American leadership in nuclear energy through safety-focused and efficient licensing.”

The changes would modernize regulations governing the production, storage, use and security of nuclear materials, helping advanced reactor developers move more efficiently from fuel development to commercial operation. By streamlining licensing processes and reducing unnecessary regulatory burdens while maintaining rigorous safety standards, the proposal supports efforts to expand domestic nuclear fuel capabilities and deliver more reliable electricity to the nation’s power grid.

The proposed rule is part of the NRC’s broader regulatory modernization initiative under Executive Order 14300 and builds on congressional direction in the ADVANCE Act to create a more predictable, efficient, and technology-inclusive regulatory framework for emerging nuclear technologies.

The NRC plans to hold a public meeting on the proposed rule soon. The NRC is also seeking public input on several related areas, including reprocessing facility licensing, pilot fuel line oversight, waste management, operator qualification, and change-control processes.

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.