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NRC Issues Strategic Plan

The Nuclear Regulatory Commission has issued a new Strategic Plan covering Fiscal Years 2014-2018. It provides a blueprint for the agency to plan, implement and monitor the work needed to achieve the NRC's mission for the next four years.

The NRC's mission is to license and regulate the civilian use of radioactive materials to protect public health and safety, promote the common defense and security, and protect the environment. To accomplish this mission, the agency set two strategic goals: to ensure the safe use and to ensure the secure use of radioactive materials. The mission and strategic goals have been revised to highlight the agency's focus on the safe and secure use of radioactive materials.

To reflect principles of good regulation, the plan includes a new vision statement—A trusted, independent, transparent and effective nuclear regulator. And it sets new strategic objectives that describe what is needed to achieve the agency's strategic goals.

To meet the strategic objectives, the plan also describes strategies that reflect how the agency will respond to new challenges affecting nuclear regulations. These challenges include processing license applications for new technologies such as small modular reactors and continuing to implement enhancements to improve reactor safety based on insight from the 2011 nuclear accident at Fukushima Dai-ichi.

The NRC issued its first Strategic Plan in September 1997 and is now required to update it every four years. The new Strategic Plan replaces the agency's existing plan (FY 2008-2013). It is available on the NRC's website along with a summary of how the final plan addresses comments received from the public on the draft.

The current and historical strategic plans can be found on the NRC's [website](#).