

# NRC: Rulemaking Process and Emergency Preparedness Proposed Rule for Small Modular Reactors and Other New Technologies

**BIA – Tribal Assistance Coordination Group  
Meeting  
August 2, 2018**

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Division of Rulemaking  
Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC)

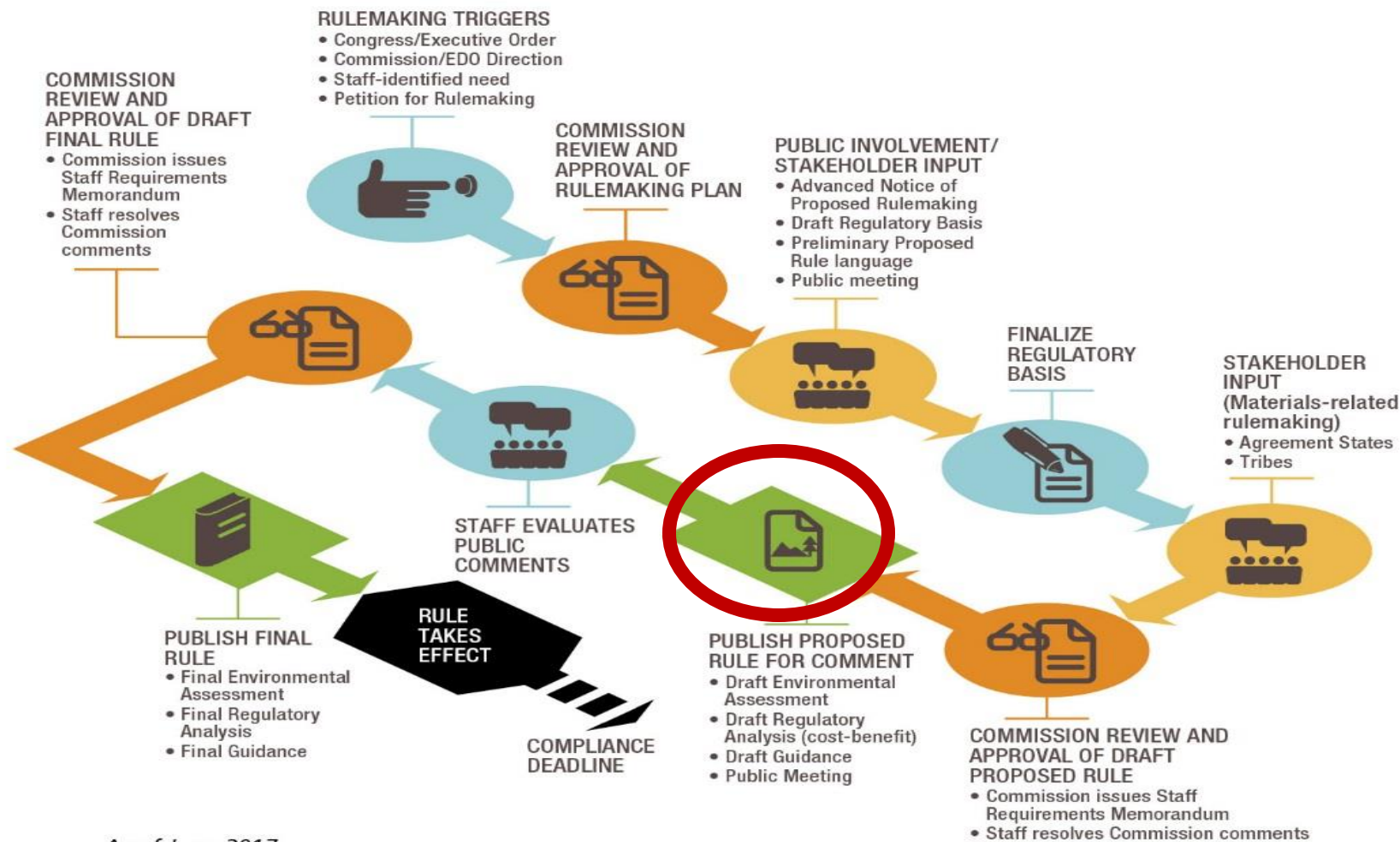
# Overview

- Rulemaking Process
  - Participation opportunities
- Upcoming Proposed Rule:
  - Emergency Preparedness for Small Modular Reactors (SMRs) and Other New Technologies (ONTs)
  - Why would anyone be interested in this rule?
- More Information
  - Opportunities for Participation
  - Where to find more information
  - Who to contact
  - References



# NRC's Rulemaking Process

## A Typical Rulemaking Process



As of June 2017

# Emergency Preparedness (EP) for Small Modular Reactors and Other New Technologies

**Purpose: Amend requirements to add a new alternative EP rule —**

- This is a performance-based framework providing a flexible alternative for plants of less risk, without impacting public health and safety
- Promotes regulatory stability, predictability, and clarity to EP regulations
- Permits the licensee to match the level of EP to level of hazard posed by an SMR or ONT facility
- Permits the use for a scalable plume exposure pathway EPZ — size adjusted based on the hazard

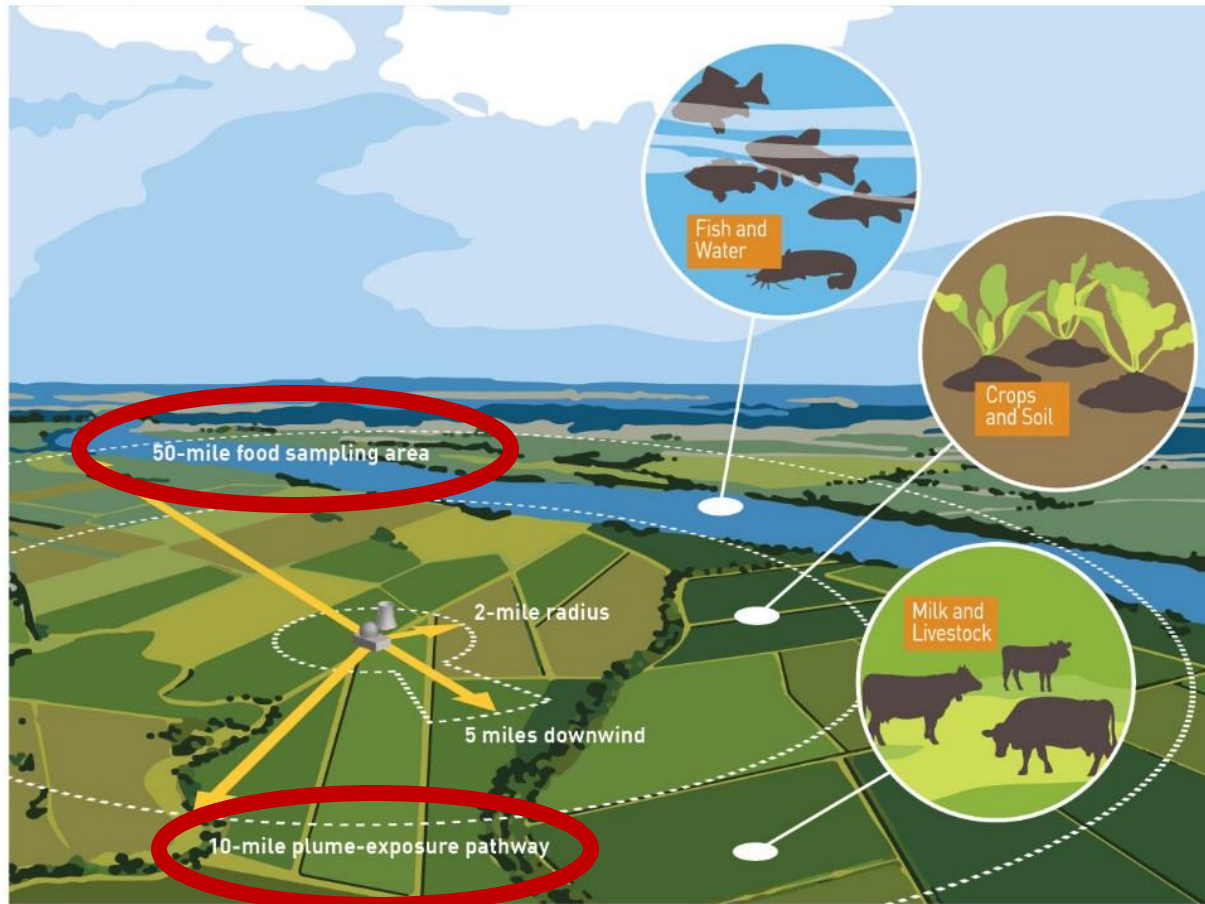
# Emergency Preparedness (EP) for Small Modular Reactors and Other New Technologies

**Purpose: Amend requirements to add a new alternative EP rule —**

- Requires demonstrating effective response in drills and exercises for emergency and accident conditions;
- Considers the hazard(s) of facilities located nearby, adjacent, or contiguous to an SMR or ONT, that would adversely impact the implementation of emergency plans;
- Promotes ingestion response planning within the emergency plan, including the capabilities and resources available to prevent contaminated food and water from entering the ingestion pathway.

# Typical Emergency Planning Zones for current nuclear reactors

## Emergency Planning Zones *(as currently depicted in regulations and guidance)*



Note: A 2-mile ring around the plant is identified for evacuation, along with a 5-mile zone downwind of the projected release path.

As of July 2017

# Emergency Preparedness (EP) for Small Modular Reactors and Other New Technologies

## Process: Proposed Rule Stage

### Completed Activities:

- April 2017 – Draft Regulatory Basis issued for comment ([82 FR 17768](#))
  - Received 57 Comments
- November 2017 – Regulatory Basis published ([82 FR 52862](#))

### Upcoming Activities:

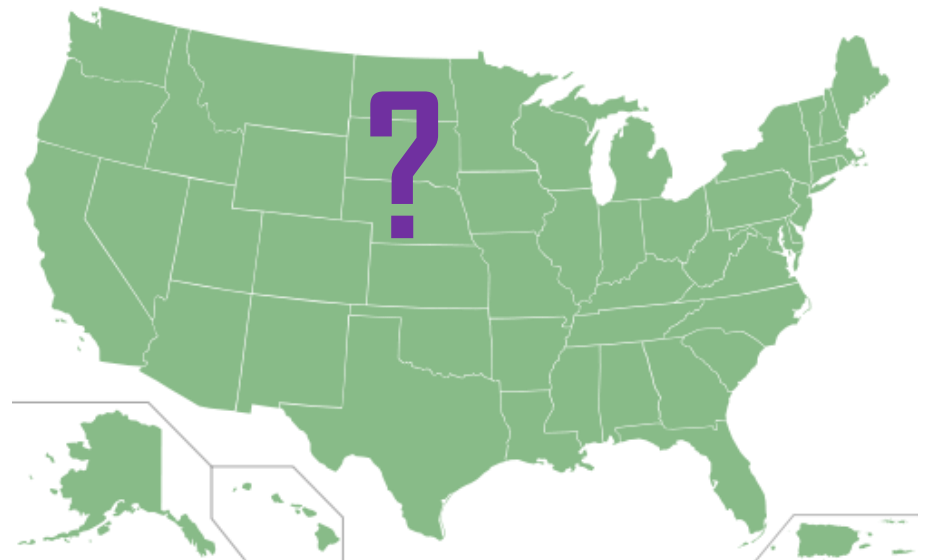
- Fall 2018 – Draft Proposed Rule to NRC Commission for approval
- Pending Commission approval – Proposed Rule published in the *Federal Register* or 75-day comment period
- February 2020 – Draft final rule to NRC Commission for approval



# Emergency Preparedness (EP) for Small Modular Reactors and Other New Technologies

## Why would anyone be interested?

This rule applies to potential SMR and ONT nuclear reactors and medical isotope facilities. These could potentially be built anywhere, if approved, therefore all tribal nations should be aware.





# Emergency Preparedness (EP) for Small Modular Reactors and Other New Technologies

## Opportunities for Participation:

- August 2018 – Letter sent to all Tribal nations
- August 22, 2018 – NRC’s ACRS Subcommittee meeting – [Open to all, including the Tribal nations](#)
- Winter 2018/2019 - Submit comments on proposed rule during 75-day comment period
- Winter 2018/2019 – Open Meeting during the comment period
- Other [public meetings](#) will be offered throughout the rulemaking process

## Rule Documents posted here:

- <https://www.regulations.gov>,

Search for Docket ID: [NRC-2015-0225](#)

# Questions?

NRC Point of Contact  
for this rule:

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# Links and References

## General Rulemaking References

- NRC's [Planned Rulemaking Activities](#) (updated biweekly)
- [NRC Rulemaking](#)
- [Petition for Rulemaking Process](#)
- Download ICF's [Reg Map](#)
- [Regulations.gov](#)
- NRC's Information Digest

## Regulatory Actions - Rules

Emergency Preparedness for Small Modular Reactors and Other New Technologies  
RIN 3150-AJ68; Docket ID [NRC-2015-0225](#)