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## Submitter Information

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## General Comment

Nuclear Matters NRC ROP Process Statement Pete Lyons, former Commissioner of the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission and Assistant Secretary for Nuclear Energy, U.S. Department of Energy

Nuclear energy generation has provided safe and reliable baseload power to households across America for about 60 years, but preserving a static regulatory framework can hinder innovation and modernization. Drawing from my experience in the Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) and U.S. Department of Energy, I support the changes proposed by the NRC as part of its current evaluation of long-term Reactor Oversight Process (ROP) enhancements. As a member of the Advocacy Council for Nuclear Matters, a coalition that works to educate the public and policymakers about the benefits of nuclear energy, I believe that as we look to the future of clean, carbon-free nuclear energy, we should also look to a regulatory oversight process that maintains safety while evolving to help enable that future.

The NRC established these standards in 2000 to ensure reactor safety consistently across all facilities, but as the plants have been modernized and changed over the last two decades, so too should the rules governing reactor safety. The current ROP program framework has done many things well, including creating a nuclear fleet that has never operated more safely or efficiently than it does today. The ROP process has continually promoted the highest levels of industry performance and focused resources on rectifying issues as they are uncovered.

Overall, I believe that the proposed changes to the ROP framework will allow the industrys continued high standards of safety to be maintained, as well as nurture the exciting and innovative technological changes that we have seen in recent years.