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UNITED STATES NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

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SCOPING MEETING

SMALL-SCALE ADVANCED REACTOR GENERIC ENVIRONMENTAL

IMPACT STATEMENT (GEIS)

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CATEGORY 3 MEETING

+ + + + +

THURSDAY

MAY 28, 2020

+ + + + +

The Category 3 Meeting met via Video-
Teleconference, at 1:00 p.m. EDT, Daniel Mussatti,
facilitating.

PRESENT

DANIEL MUSSATTI, NRC, Facilitator

DANIEL BARNHURST, NMSS

JACK CUSHING, NMSS

KENNETH ERWIN, NMSS

DAVE GOODMAN, PNNL

KELLEEE JAMERSON, NMSS

DONALD PALMROSE, NMSS

BO SAULSBURY, PNNL

LAURA WILLINGHAM, NMSS

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ALSO PRESENT

KATI AUSTGEN, Nuclear Energy Institute

PETER HASTINGS, Kairos Power

RICHARD HAWKINS

HARRISON KARR, Navajo Nation Department of
Justice

JEFFREY MERRIFIELD, Nuclear Industry Council

PAM MAPLES

MARTIN O'NEILL

DAVE PRITCHETT

MONTE SANFORD, Shoshone-Bannock Tribes

ABHIJIT SENGUPTA

FARSHID SHAHROKHI

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AGENDA

<u>Item</u>	<u>Page</u>
Opening Remarks, Kenneth Erwin.....	4
Facilitator Remarks, Daniel Mussatti.....	6
Small-Scale Advanced Reactor Generic Environmental Impact Statement Presentation, Jack Cushing, Laura Willingham.....	10
Public Questions and Comments.....	25

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P-R-O-C-E-E-D-I-N-G-S

1:00 p.m.

MR. ERWIN: Good afternoon, everyone. Welcome to our scoping meeting and thank you for your participation.

My name is Ken Erwin. And I am the Branch Chief of the Environmental Review New Reactor Branch here in NMSS at the NRC.

We are here to discuss our plan to prepare a Generic EIS, or GEIS, for small-scale advanced reactors. A GEIS is a document that summarizes staff's analysis of resource areas under NEPA and its related laws, statutes, and regulations.

This GEIS would be nationwide and cover a postulated plant parameter envelope, which you'll hear more about later during the presentation.

Applicants that choose to reference the GEIS, at a later date, would not have to redo the analyses for certain resource areas that we plan to analyze now if they can show that their design fits within the analyzed parameters.

One of the purposes of the GEIS is to make future license reviews more efficient and effective.

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The objective of this scoping meeting is for us to hear from you and hear your input on things the staff should consider as it completes its analysis and report.

We're here to seek input. And we can answer your questions about the process. But it's important that you know we haven't made any decisions or determinations yet, so we won't specifically answer comments that are made here today. Those will be considered as part of our analysis and then answered later in our Draft GEIS.

A few logistical items for your consideration. We are having this meeting in a virtual environment. So, thank you for your patience as we adapt to the changing time and environment. Also, thank you in advance for your patience with any IT lag we may experience.

The slides for the meeting are available at the public meeting notice at our website and in our ADAMS [Agency-wide Document Access Management System] online document system at ML20147A677.

Also, the meeting will be recorded and transcribed. So, if you do speak, please state your name and spell it for the court reporter.

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Also, we have a chat box that we will read out loud during the question and answer portion of the meeting.

We have many other ways that you can send us comments later on. However, given the current state of affairs, the best thing we believe is to use the email input. This will better ensure that your comments are considered in a timely fashion.

With that, I'll say thank you again for your participation and attendance. And now I'll turn the presentation over to our facilitator, Dan Mussatti.

MR. MUSSATTI: Thanks, Ken. Good afternoon, everyone. Let's get started. I'm your facilitator, Dan Mussatti. And I want to welcome you to this Office of Nuclear Material Safety and Safeguards Category 3 Public Meeting for the Generic Environmental Impact Statement for Advanced Reactors.

A Category 3 meeting is designed to accommodate technical exchanges and comments from the public. We will start with some opening remarks and a review of the background behind the Advanced Reactor GEIS, then transition to a Q&A session between staff and stakeholders.

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The purpose of this meeting is to hear your concerns and recommendations with regard to the scope of the Advanced Reactor GEIS for the evaluation of the environmental impacts of constructing and operating a small-scale advanced reactor.

As stated in the meeting announcement, the NRC is seeking input on the parameters which may be used to evaluate these impacts, as well as any issues that may be resolved generically or require a site-specific evaluation.

I will be serving as your facilitator, which means that I am here to ensure that the meeting is informative, productive, and on time.

Most of us present have participated in many public meetings before. But with the COVID-19 constraints, our process has changed. I'd like to go over some housekeeping items before we get started just to make sure that we're all on the same page.

Okay. Comments will be received, that are received before June 30, 2020 will be considered in the draft. And comments received after June 30, 2020 will be considered if time allows.

There are several ways to get your comments in to us, primarily at this meeting right

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now, but also through the regulations.gov, Docket NRC-2020-0101 that's in the meeting notice, and by the email to the AdvancedReactors-GEIS.resource@nrc.gov.

You can also send comments in by snail mail. But since our headquarters building is not open, there's a chance that your mail-in comments won't reach us in a timely manner. But if you do plan on mailing your comments, send them to the Office of Administration, Mail Stop TWFN 7 A60M, U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission, Washington, D.C. 20555-0001.

This meeting is being provided to external participants via WebEx. Because we are all participating remotely, you're listening to the meeting through a telephone bridge line.

If you happen to be listening through the WebEx audio feed right now, please take a moment to sign off of that and call 1-888-622-9844 and enter the passcode 5484985. Just in case you were looking for a pencil and paper to write that down when I was reading off the numbers, I'll say them again. Call 1-888-622-9844 and enter the passcode 5484985.

By phone, you're participating through

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our operator, Audrey, who will be managing the order of the people that are making comments. She gave instructions at the beginning as to how to get into the queue. If you signed in a little bit late, that is to, what you do is you press *1 and then state your name very clearly.

Thank you, Audrey. I appreciate your help. And I'll be coming back to you when it's time for us to have questions and comments from the public.

We want to have a clean transcript of this meeting. So, to do that, we have a court reporter with us today. His name is Sam Wojack.

When it's your turn to speak, be sure to speak slowly, clearly, and directly into your telephone or microphone starting with your name and affiliation, even if you've spoken before. And if your name is one that might be hard to spell, please spell it out for Sam. For the record, Sam, my last name is spelled M-U-S-S-A-T-T-I.

As much as possible, please minimize background noises such as pets and children while you're speaking to the record.

We have a lot to talk about and only a limited time to do it, and we want to ensure every

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person who wants to speak gets a chance to speak. So please limit your comments to no more than three minutes.

After we've gone through a good number of on-the-phone comments, we're going to take a number of comments from the chat room.

And then towards the end of the meeting, when it becomes obvious we're not going to be getting any new commenters, people who have already made a comment will be able to have a follow-up. Are there any questions?

Okay. Like I said, we're going to start with a PowerPoint presentation followed by a few minutes of Q&A related to the process, about the GEIS. After that, we will open the floor to comments from the phone and the chat room.

Let's get started with our opening remarks from Jack Cushing, a Senior Project Manager for the Division of Rulemaking, Environmental, and Financial Support, Environmental Review New Reactors Branch. Jack.

MR. CUSHING: Thank you, Dan. And thank you all for participating in the webinar. As Dan mentioned, I'm Jack Cushing. And I'm a Senior

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Environmental Project Manager. And I am the Lead Project Manager for the Advanced Reactor Generic Environmental Impact Statement, or GEIS.

We will be using the term GEIS in, throughout this presentation. And that's to refer to the Generic Environmental Impact Statement.

With me is Laura Willingham, who is also an Environmental Project Manager working with me on the GEIS. We lead a team of subject matter experts both at the NRC and at Pacific Northwest National Laboratory, or PNNL, who are assisting us in developing the GEIS.

I will now turn the presentation over to Laura. Laura, next slide please.

MS. WILLINGHAM: Good afternoon, everyone. The purpose of today's scoping meeting is to provide you with information on the Advanced Reactor GEIS.

We will explain what a GEIS is and how it evaluates environmental impacts. We will present the NRC's environmental review process and discuss the scoping process.

We will explain why we are doing a GEIS and how we plan to evaluate environmental impacts

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using a technology-neutral approach for a small-scale advanced reactor sited anywhere in the U.S. that meets the NRC's regulation. We will describe the Advanced Reactor GEIS' role in the environmental reviews of future advanced reactor applications.

Lastly, and most importantly, we are here to share information on how you can submit comments and to gather your comments today on our proposed approach for the Advanced Reactor GEIS.

But first, I would like to provide an overview of the NRC and its mission. Next slide, please.

The NRC is an independent agency led by five presidentially-appointed commissioners and consists of technical experts in various fields. Our mission is to protect the public health and safety, promote common defense and security, and protect the environment by regulating the civilian use of radioactive materials.

One of the many responsibilities of the NRC is to determine whether it is safe to build and operate a new nuclear power plant at a site.

The NRC staff evaluates the environmental impacts of building and operating a new nuclear power

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plant during its review of an application for a license or permit. This evaluation is contained in an environmental impact statement. Next slide, please.

And you might be asking yourself what is a GEIS. A GEIS is a type of environmental impact statement that considers the environmental impacts of a particular action and reaches generic conclusions for as many environmental issues as possible.

The environmental issues are categorized to be either common or generic and are also called category 1 issues, or the issues could be site-specific issues, also called category 2 issues.

A future application would have to demonstrate that they are bounded by the analysis in the GEIS for category 1 issues and would then only need to address category 2 issues.

The NRC would then issue a Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement to the GEIS evaluating any unbounded category 1 issues and category 2 issues. This tiering off approach helps to streamline the environmental review process. Next slide, please.

This slide gives an overview of the NRC's

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environmental review process for the Advanced Reactor GEIS. The yellow boxes indicate an NRC action. And the white ovals are opportunities for the public to provide comments.

The blue hexagon represents the issuance of the Final GEIS with the NRC's determination of environmental impacts. Currently, we are in the scoping process. Next slide, please.

Scoping helps determine the environmental issues to be analyzed in an environmental impact statement. Scoping is part of an information gathering process, which also includes document reviews and outreach to stakeholders, such as state and federal agencies, tribes, and the public.

Scoping typically includes a comment period for stakeholders to provide relevant information to the agency for consideration in the development of the environmental impact statement.

At the conclusion of the scoping process, the NRC staff will issue a Scoping Summary Report. Next slide, please.

During the Advanced Reactor GEIS scoping process, we would like your feedback on the approach

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we have developed, the proposed parameters to evaluate the environmental impacts of constructing and operating a small-scale advanced reactor, and your feedback on what environmental issues we should evaluate generically as category 1 issues, and what issues are site-specific and would need to be evaluated when an application is submitted to the NRC.

You can provide feedback during this scoping comment period, which ends on June 30th. Next slide, please.

The staff conducted an exploratory process to determine if developing the GEIS for advanced reactors would be viable and determined that a GEIS would help streamline the environmental reviews for future small-scale advanced reactors.

Thus, the staff issued an information paper in March of this year informing the Commission that it planned on developing a GEIS for small-scale advanced reactors.

The information paper stated the power level would be approximately 30 megawatts thermal. But this is another item we would like input from you on how to move forward in the evaluation in the GEIS.

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Next slide, please.

The NRC has used generic environmental impact statements in the past. For example, the NRC has a GEIS for license renewal of operating nuclear power plants. The Advanced Reactor GEIS will generally follow the approach that's in the License Renewal GEIS. However, in addition to operational impacts, the Advanced Reactor GEIS will also address construction impacts.

The Advanced Reactor GEIS will incorporate by reference analyses from other environmental impact statements as appropriate, such as the Decommissioning GEIS and the Continued Storage GEIS.

As we already discussed, a Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement would incorporate by reference category 1 issues that are bounded by the GEIS and would evaluate the unbounded category 1 issues and any site-specific category 2 issues when an application is submitted to the NRC. Next slide, please.

I will now discuss how the NRC proposes to generically evaluate the environmental impacts from any type of small-scale advanced reactor located

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anywhere in the U.S. without knowing the reactor design or the location.

First, we establish limits on the size of the reactor and the site. So most environmental impacts at most sites would be a category 1 or generic issue.

Next, we develop a technology-inclusive plant parameter envelope to bound many types of small-scale advanced reactors. A plant parameter envelope is a list of values and assumptions such as the power level of the reactor, the footprints or ground disturbance for the project, and the amount of water used, if any.

Then, we develop a site parameter envelope to bound a typical site. The site parameter is a list of values and assumptions for a site that can support a reactor that falls within the proposed parameter envelope.

Next slide, please. Oh, actually, we need to go back one. Sorry. Yes, thanks, to 11.

An underlying assumption for the GEIS is that a small-scale advanced reactor can obtain the required permits from other agencies, in addition to the NRC.

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For example, we assume the site meets the NRC's reactor siting and dose limit regulations. We also assume that the plant will obtain the necessary approvals from other state, local, and federal agencies. Furthermore, we assume that standard mitigation practices, such as best management practices, would be followed.

I will now turn the presentation back to Jack, who will discuss in more detail the environmental resources we are analyzing in the GEIS and the proposed plant parameter envelope and the site parameter envelope for each resource.

MR. CUSHING: Next slide, please. Yes, this slide shows the resource areas and issues that we evaluate in the Generic Environmental Impact Statement.

We consider terrestrial ecology, aquatic ecology, air quality and climate change, the fuel cycle, Rad Waste, accidents and severe accident mitigation alternatives, surface and groundwater use, water quality, transportation/land use, historic and cultural resources, demographics, socioeconomic, environmental justice, and economics, as well as human health.

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And those are all considered in the Generic Environmental Impact Statement. Next slide, please.

The next few slides have a draft plant parameter envelope values and assumptions. These are draft values and not necessarily the values that will be used in the GEIS.

We welcome comments on the values and assumptions from the public and other stakeholders, such as vendors developing small-scale reactors. For vendors, would these values bound your design?

The first bounding parameter is the size of the site, and the value is 100 acres. The assumptions made are that it will meet NRC siting regulation at 10 CFR Part 100.

And the other assumptions are that it could be located as a stand-alone site or a designated portion of a larger site, such as located on a larger military site or an existing power plant.

So, if a project comes in and they are less than 100 acres and meet the assumptions, then it would be within the bounds of the plant parameter envelope. The staff would use these parameters along with the site parameters to determine the impact to

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resources like land use. So, the plant parameter, the PPE on this slide -- next slide, please.

This PPE parameters on this slide illustrate the staff's initial determination on values which might bound water use, consumption, and discharge for an advanced reactor plant's cooling water system, service water, sanitary and potable systems. Values for cooling and service water systems would only apply if the selected design is water cooled.

The values for the first three rows for cooling and service water intake, consumptive water use, and plant discharge were developed by evaluating normal and maximum water usage at large light water reactor plant sites and then scaling this value down to representing 60 megawatts thermal plant. The resulting values were also adjusted upward around 25 percent to conservatively account for uncertainty.

These values represent a simplified balance in the plant water system with the amount of water being discharged and consumed equal to the amount being withdrawn. As indicated in row 4, the staff is specifying that the discharge would be within applicable Clean Water Act permit limits.

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Potable and sanitary use is based on the assumption that 150 construction workers will use approximately 50 gallons per person per day.

We also have values for blowdown temperature and constituents. And the values would have to be within permit limits.

If you have specific values for your particular design, we would welcome comments on that. Next slide, please.

In the draft, the staff used 60 megawatts thermal as the bounding parameter for a small-scale reactor. In the information paper, as Laura mentioned, the staff used 30 megawatts thermal and said we would discuss during scoping. So, we'd like your comments on the power level. Is this the right value for your design? Next slide, please.

The draft values on this slide deal with the number of construction workers and the number of staff that would be working during plant operations. We also consider the number of additional workers that would be needed for a refueling operation. And we also provide a value for noise generation at the site boundary. Next slide, please.

The station capacity factor is the

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percentage of time that the plant is capable of providing power to the grid. In this case, we've selected 95 percent or greater. A normal plant operating cycle or the time between refueling cycles varies by design and could be from 2 years to 20 years.

The electrical output in a megawatt electric value is -- for a 60 megawatt thermal plant, we assumed a 33 percent efficiency and came up with 20 megawatt electric. It is acceptable, because some advanced designs will be more efficient than 33 percent, to have a higher megawatt electric value. Next slide, please.

The next slide are for the draft values for the site parameter envelope, the site parameter envelope has parameters and values that describe the site. The plant parameter envelope values, which describe the reactor, need to fit within the site parameter values.

The staff will evaluate the impact to the resource by looking at the impact for the reactor described by the plant parameter envelope on a site described in the site parameter envelope. And this slide discusses water use and surface water

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availability. Next slide, please.

So, this slide discusses the surface water discharge and the difference is rather than it provides a minimum flow, monthly minimum flow of 75 cubic feet per second to water. That would be the size, the flow rate of the water body.

Now, it's not applicable if the plant is air cooled. And the other assumptions is that it would be in accordance with state and local permits, and the altered patterns and salinity gradients would be localized.

Now, large water bodies, such as oceans, Great Lakes, are assumed to have a sufficient water capacity to dilution as long as the restrictions on localized impacts are met.

Groundwater availability and quality, we assume a pumping rate of less than 100 gallons per minutes. And you'd have the local permits required for your pumping groundwater. Next slide, please.

This slide discusses the parameters for air quality. We assume the site would be in one of the EPA air quality attainment, maintenance area, or nonattainment, and that the emissions for criteria pollutants are less than de minimis value that are in

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the Clean Air Act regulations.

Economics, we made assumptions about annual property tax for the proposed project. And that's used in our economic analysis. Next slide, please.

This slide identifies issues that are likely to be category 2 issues and would need to be addressed in the Supplemental EIS.

The Endangered Species Act requires an evaluation of the impacts to endangered species. And that would only be able to be performed when we know the actual site location.

Historic and cultural resources, again, this is something that's location specific. We would not know the cultural and historic resources until we knew the site location.

And so that would be evaluated in a Supplemental EIS issued when the application comes in. And we would do the required consultations under Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act at that time.

Severe accidents and severe accident mitigation alternatives are only known when we know the specific design information. And again, that,

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because we're being technology-neutral, we would not know the specific design. And, therefore, that would be evaluated when the application comes in.

Climate change, we can't evaluate that now because, again, that is location specific, but it's also continually new information is coming out on that. So that would be evaluated at the time the Supplemental EIS is issued. Next slide, please.

Alternatives require a comparison between the project and the alternatives. For example, the proposed site and the alternative site are not known in the Generic Environmental Impact Statement, so that can only be done when we receive the application.

The need for the project is also something that can only be determined when the application is received. There are several different needs that could be for the project. And they would be pretty much location specific.

Cost and benefit of the project kind of aligns with the need for the project. And that also can only be determined when the application is received. Next slide, please.

These are the important dates. Right now

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we're in the scoping period. And we're gathering comments from you, the public. And that ends on June 30th.

And after we get your comments, we'll consider them. And when we develop the Draft Generic Environmental Impact Statement, which is scheduled to be issued on May 1, 2021, and then that will be issued for comments.

We'll consider your comments. And then we'll issue a Final Generic Environmental Impact Statement on May 1, 2022. Next slide, please.

This slide shows how you can submit comments. You can email them to the email address shown. You can submit them through regulations.gov. And you can mail them in. But with COVID-19 issues, that would be the least efficient method to do so.

And at this meeting, your comments are being recorded and transcribed. So, we will have a record of those comments. And they will be considered. Next slide, please.

This completes our presentation. And what we'd like now is to go to the important part of the meeting, which is receiving your comments and questions. So, I will turn this over to Dan. And

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if we could start that part of the meeting, I'd appreciate it. Thank you.

MR. MUSSATTI: All right. Thank you, Jack. Now let's open up the floor for questions about our process, things like, well, what happens to the comments after they're taken in, do you have a website where we could follow your progress, things like that.

We're not ready to take specific questions about the GEIS project because this is what the scoping process is for, is to gather that information through the comments later on.

Audrey, do we have any people that have questions on the line?

OPERATOR: At this time, I show no questions at all. If you would like to ask a question, please press *1 on your phone and record your name clearly. And then I will be able to put your question through. It looks like we have some questions coming through. One moment, please.

MR. MUSSATTI: All right. Well, let's, before we take that first question on the phone, let's go to Dan Barnhurst, who's been monitoring the chat. I think we have a question there, don't we?

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MR. BARNHURST: Yes, Dan. We have two actually. The first is from David Pritchett. And his question is does or will this EIS identify locations or sites for these reactors. Jack, would you like to address that?

MR. CUSHING: Yes. Thank you. And no, the GEIS will not identify any specific sites. The specific sites will be identified when an application is received.

To address this, we are using a site parameter envelope to describe sites. So, when an applicant comes in with their application and their site, they would need to demonstrate that their site falls within the parameters in the Generic Environmental Impact Statement.

MR. MUSSATTI: Okay. What's the next question, Dan?

MR. BARNHURST: Okay. The next question from the WebEx chat is from Farshid Shahrokhi. His question is what is the basis for 30 megawatt thermal? This is only a 10 megawatt electric at best, and very limited developers are proposing 30 megawatt thermal. Why not 300 megawatt electric as the SMR limit? Jack, would you also like to take that?

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MR. CUSHING: Yes. What we're trying to do with the Generic Environmental Impact Statement is develop a Generic Environmental Impact Statement that can have as many generic issues resolved or category 1 issues so that when someone comes in with a Supplemental EIS, there would be less for them to evaluate. They wouldn't have to evaluate the issues were resolved generically.

The larger you make the power limit, the less category 1 issues you would have. So, what we're doing is addressing the issue of not knowing where it will be built or by limiting the size of the reactor and so that the impacts would be small and the GEIS could be referenced and you wouldn't need to do any analysis in the Supplemental EIS.

MR. MUSSATTI: All right. Thank you, Jack. Audrey, have we got someone on the line?

OPERATOR: We do. Our first question comes from Kati Austgen. Kati, your line is open. Oh, wait, I'm sorry. The first question actually comes from Jeff Merrifield. Jeff's line is open.

MR. MERRIFIELD: Thank you very much. And as I just said, this is Jeff Merrifield. I'm on the call in my capacity as the Chairman of the

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Advanced Reactor Task Force for the Nuclear Industry Council (NIC), also in my role as a board member and nuclear adviser for ClearPath.

First thing I want to say is I very much want to recognize the work of the NRC staff in this effort. The second is both NIC and ClearPath had advocated for the action that the agency is taking on a GEIS. And so, we do appreciate this work in attempting to move the process forward.

I would also say we will be evaluating some of the ideas that you have come up with in this scoping meeting and certainly may be making additional comments in a written form to help evaluate this.

In a general sense, I would say the written comments that we had previously put in, including a letter on this topic, still apply from our views. And so, we would certainly want to have that included in the record.

Additionally, I think as a general matter, we are supportive and encouraging of an approach that would cast a wide net to make this applicable for a number of reactor designs.

Having said that, as I say, we'll have

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more detailed comments in the public comment process.

I would say, finally, for the record, it is our view that the process that the NRC is using would provide sufficient and robust opportunities to provide for public input into this process. I think both organizations feel that the agency has outlined a process that will allow us to have robust input as this moves along.

And we would certainly say that we want to keep the process moving forward. And then even if the NRC schedules additional meetings in order to accommodate that, we believe that the overall schedule that has been outlined by the NRC staff should not be delayed. With that, thank you very much.

MR. MUSSATTI: Okay. The next caller, please, Audrey.

OPERATOR: The next question comes from Kati Austgen. Kati, your line is now open.

MS. AUSTGEN: Thank you. This is Kati Austgen with the Nuclear Energy Institute. And our advanced reactor regulatory task force is supportive of this effort to develop the Advanced Nuclear Reactor GEIS.

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We would reiterate some of our earlier comments that we think this should include performance-based parameters that would envelope advanced reactors regardless of technology and perhaps open it up to a wider range of thermal power levels as well.

Looking at the slides the staff has provided, it seems that in many cases the assumptions that you've listed next to the values for each parameter could actually be turned into performance-based criteria.

And so, we would encourage the staff to look at perhaps being more encompassing of a full range of advanced reactor technologies through this use of performance-based parameters and criteria.

I would also like to encourage the NRC to consider how these various parameters in the ANR GEIS may be bounded by the variety of environmental impact statements that have historically been developed for large light water reactors.

I'm encouraged to see the references to the License Renewal GEIS, the intent to rely on Decommissioning GEIS and Continued Storage GEIS. We're definitely supportive of using all the

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knowledge that we already have to see how we might be able to bound advanced nuclear reactors.

And finally, I'll end with one question to the staff. Will you be considering advanced reactor fuel cycle impacts in this GEIS?

MR. MUSSATTI: Jack.

MR. CUSHING: Yes, we will consider that. And what, you know, so we are including that, as you saw in that figure. So that included the fuel cycle impacts.

MS. AUSTGEN: Okay. Thank you. Again, we're seeing this as an area where some performance-based parameters may be useful. And again, it could find that things are enveloped by the light water reactor fuel cycle. Thank you.

MR. MUSSATTI: Okay. Audrey, do we have any other callers on the line?

OPERATOR: We have one more question. As a reminder, please press *1 on your phone and record your name if you have a question. Our next question comes from Harrison Karr. Harrison, your line is open.

MR. KARR: Thank you very much. I have two questions. I'm an attorney with the Navajo

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Nation Department of Justice.

And as you probably know, the Navajo Nation has suffered and continues to suffer enormously from the legacy of irresponsible uranium mining and processing in the Southwest. So, we have great concerns about any renewable nuclear energy, so -- or expansion of nuclear energy.

So, my first question is what would be the intended type and source of fuel for these reactors. And the second question is what would be the plan for disposal of waste from the reactors. Thank you.

MR. MUSSATTI: Let's go back to Jack, again.

MR. CUSHING: Our expectation is that the fuel source would be this same fuel source for mining and that aspect as the current fleet. And the other, and for the disposal of the fuel, we would -- well, we assume that the same process that we used in our Continued Storage GEIS would apply to advanced reactors disposal of fuel. And that's --

(Simultaneous speaking.)

MR. CUSHING: -- 2157.

MR. MUSSATTI: Okay. Do we have another

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question?

OPERATOR: There are no additional questions at this time.

MR. MUSSATTI: Okay. Do we have anything, Dan Barnhurst, over on the chat?

MR. BARNHURST: We do not.

MR. MUSSATTI: Okay. Going once, if you've got a question and you're on the telephone, please press *1 now.

MR. ERWIN: Hey, Dan. Hey, this is Ken Erwin again. Maybe --

MR. MUSSATTI: Yes.

MR. ERWIN: Maybe real quick while people are thinking about questions if they have any, I'll mention that, you know, we have posted these slides on our Advanced Nuclear Reactor GEIS public website, which you can find at nrc.gov.

And then that's a good place maybe to go look at these tables a little bit further. You know, we welcome comments on all the parameters in the tables. Nothing is set in stone here.

You know, if you want to submit a comment on -- I think there was a question about power level, if it should be, you know, what the power level should

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be or about what we should consider in terms of the waste or the fuel cycle, we really appreciate that.

You know, you don't have to get up and repeat it now if you don't want. But I think they have, I think Jack said they have until June 30th to submit those comments.

So, I just thought it would be good to reiterate that. And it looks like someone's put that in the chat as well, so, the link for the chat.

MR. MUSSATTI: And I appreciate that clarification. Audrey, one last time, is there anybody that's waiting to ask a question?

OPERATOR: It looks like Jeff Merrifield is back to ask a question. Go ahead, Jeff. Your line is open.

MR. MERRIFIELD: Yes, thank you very much. I did want to supplement my prior comment with one comment relative to slide 22. In it you look at likely category 2 issues. The second bullet talks about the need for the project.

In the letters that we have previously written on behalf of NIC, ClearPath, we've indicated our view that the need for power analysis is unnecessary nor is it required in the process, as

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those issues are handled either by an economic regulator, namely the UC's (telephonic interference) on the market itself, where in an open market state an entity investing in these reactors would have made its internal analysis based on whether it made economic sense in the market that it is going into.

Could you outline a little bit what your current thinking is relative to bullet 2 and whether the potential for dropping that requirement in this process is under consideration?

MR. CUSHING: This is Jack Cushing. And right now we're not at that point in the development of our GEIS.

MR. MUSSATTI: Okay. Sounds like we're running out of questions here. Dan, you've got something here you wanted to read out.

MR. BARNHURST: I do, yeah. Thank you. And sorry for interrupting. Yeah, this is not process related but it's a great question from Pam Maples. She's asking has the NRC received applications to build one of these advanced nuclear reactors.

MR. ERWIN: Hi, Dan. This is Ken Erwin again. I think I could take that one.

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We have received one application for an advanced reactor. We're still undergoing our acceptance review for that reactor at the moment. But we should have that. I think that's going to be wrapped up in about a month or so. We're not the lead project manager for that project. But we are a part of the acceptance review.

MR. MUSSATTI: Okay. Thanks, Ken. I think it's time for us to move on to the purpose of this meeting, gathering information from you, the public.

Again, we ask you to keep your comments short and to the point, no more than maybe three minutes. And we want to hear from as many people as possible. So please hold off on a follow-up question until I ask for them. That will probably be towards the end of the meeting when it starts getting further and further between responders.

Audrey, do we have anybody on the line that would just like to make a comment for the record now?

OPERATOR: We have one person, Marty O'Neill, that had a question before your statement. Marty, your line is open.

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MR. O'NEILL: Thanks. Yeah, this is Marty O'Neill in the legal division at NEI [Nuclear Energy Institute]. And I just had a quick process related question.

Do you guys ultimately envision an associated rulemaking, you know, for instance, a license renewals-based codified the findings in the GEIS, you know, in table B-1, or is it, you know, kind of too early in the process for you to forecast exactly, you know, what that rulemaking might look like?

MR. MUSSATTI: Back to you, Jack.

MR. CUSHING: We are, at the present time, we're not planning on rulemaking. However, that is under consideration right now, and we may revisit it later.

MR. O'NEILL: Okay. Thank you.

OPERATOR: As a reminder, please press *1 on your phone and record your name if you wanted to make a comment at this time.

MR. MUSSATTI: Dan, do we have any people that have been, that sent in a comment by chat that we should read out?

MR. BARNHURST: We just received one more

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question from Patrick Sheehan (phonetic) asking if the slides will be shared. This question came in on the WebEx chat. And if you'll look on the WebEx chat, there are several links that have already been shared to where the slides may be found.

Also, if you visit, if you go to the nrc.gov website, there's a link on the left-hand side of the page for advanced reactors. If you follow that link, you'll come to a page that says Advanced Reactor GEIS effort. And the slides were posted just yesterday on that site. So, you'll be able to review those again.

MR. MUSSATTI: Okay. We're getting those long silences in between commenters. Audrey, do we have anybody on the line?

OPERATOR: I show no additional questions or comments at this time.

MR. MUSSATTI: Okay.

OPERATOR: It looks like we just had one come in. One moment, please.

MR. MUSSATTI: Oh, good. Thank you.

OPERATOR: I have Peter Hastings on the line. Your line is open.

MR. HASTINGS: Thank you. This is Peter

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Hastings with Kairos Power. We appreciate the efforts of the staff and strongly believe that reformation of the NEPA process is essential to deploying new nuclear plants, which is important to Kairos' mission of enabling the world's transition to clean energy with the ultimate goal of dramatically improving people's quality of life while protecting the environment.

Like others, Kairos Power provided previous comments that we will reiterate on the docket as necessary. Reacting sort of in real time to the information provided today, I'd like to offer four additional comments, excuse me, that should be considered in scoping the GEIS.

First, using NRC's general assumptions on your slide 11, those assumptions virtually guarantee that many potential impacts will be small. There is no reason, particularly under the rule of reason, for NRC to assume that the various NRC regulations, such as 20, 50, 52, and 100 for instance, would not be complied with. This start puts hard guardrails on reasonably foreseeable radiological consequences.

Similarly, compliance with federal and state environmental permits, which should also be

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assumed as a condition of building and operating the plant, should provide adequate assurance against adverse environmental impacts within the topics covered by those permits. This is true irrespective of plant size.

Second, we suggested in prior discussions with the staff and reiterate here for the purpose of the scoping record, that the GEIS should be broader than currently envisioned, that is the limitation to a 30 megawatt design seems unnecessarily limiting.

Iterating on a GEIS two or three times to eventually get to one that's applicable for pending applicants for larger plants will take longer than is actually useful.

Third, the staff should consider, to the maximum practical extent, that hundreds of reactor operating years have indicated consistently small adverse impacts and, in fact, large positive impacts from nuclear power generation.

Nuclear power generation is subject to a dramatically larger regulatory burden than competing technologies, all for an environmental benefit that's demonstrably greater, particularly in consideration of carbon emissions and air quality.

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And finally, to echo the comments from an earlier participant, advanced reactor fuel cycle impacts should be addressed in the GEIS. Also, as a function of the presumption of compliance with NRC regulations, it should be straightforward to conclude in the main that these impacts are similar to those previously evaluated for LWRs, particularly when it comes to transportation impacts.

That concludes my remarks. And we'll also be happy to provide these in writing for the record. Thank you.

MR. MUSSATTI: Okay. Thank you.
Anybody else on the phones?

OPERATOR: Not currently.

MR. MUSSATTI: I don't think there's anything on the chat either. Dan?

MR. BARNHURST: No, there's not, no.

MR. MUSSATTI: Okay. We've got --

OPERATOR: We have a --

MR. MUSSATTI: We've got plenty of time left on this, on the clock here. I'm reluctant to shut down early just because there's a lag in the calls. But if we don't get any more comments here, then, you know, we'd just be wasting our time to go

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any further with the meeting. Jack, you got some guidance for me on this? This is your meeting.

OPERATOR: Excuse me. I do have another comment from Richard Hawkins.

MR. MUSSATTI: Oh, good. Thank you.

OPERATOR: You're welcome. And, Richard, your line is open.

MR. HAWKINS: Thank you. And I appreciate this notification and, you know, effort to reach out to the public. And I'm THPO [Tribal Historical Preservation Officer] coordinator for the Buena Vista Rancheria.

But I just simply want to know if I'm able to view this slide PowerPoint that you've offered. I came on kind of late and missed the first part of it. So, I'm just wondering if there's availability for viewing this slide.

MR. MUSSATTI: Yes, the slides are available online. And if you go to the NRC announcement for this meeting, the link for those slides should be right there.

MR. HAWKINS: Okay. Well, that's really all I wanted to say. Thank you.

MR. MUSSATTI: All right.

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OPERATOR: Again, as a reminder, please press *1 on your phone and record your name if you have a question or comment. One moment please while we see if any further questions or comments come through.

MR. MUSSATTI: We also have these slides available, for that last speaker's benefit here, the slides are available on our ADAMS website. And, Dan, I just lost that on my screen as far as the ML number. Could you give us the ML number for the slides?

MR. BARNHURST: Sure, yeah, I can read that out. The ML number in the ADAMS, the agency's document system, which is called ADAMS, is ML20147A677. And I'll read that one more time. It's ML20147A677. And again, that information is up in the WebEx chat box. Of course, that will be gone when the meeting ends.

But as Dan mentioned, you can also go to the agency's website. The meeting notice for today has the slides. Also, they're under the Advanced Reactor GEIS portion of the Advanced Reactor tab that you can access through the agency's public site. So, and they will be staying there.

MR. MUSSATTI: Thank you, Dan. That was

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very thorough. Audrey, is there anybody on the line?

OPERATOR: I don't have any additional questions or comments at this time.

MR. MUSSATTI: Okay.

MR. BARNHURST: Hey, Dan, this is Dan Barnhurst. There is a question coming in on the WebEx chat.

MR. MUSSATTI: Good. What is it?

MR. BARNHURST: Yeah. The question is from Dr. -- oh, I apologize. I'm not going to get your name right, Abhijit Sengupta. When will the next meeting be?

MR. CUSHING: This is Jack Cushing. The next meeting will be after, we're going to consider the comments we receive during the scoping period. And we'll consider them when we write our Draft Generic Environmental Impact Statement.

Then after that's issued, we'll have another public meeting to get your comments on the Draft Generic Environmental Impact Statement so we can consider those comments before we finalize the Generic Environmental Impact Statement. So that will be --

MR. ERWIN: So there's a slide --

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MR. CUSHING: That will be sometime --

MR. ERWIN: Jack --

MR. CUSHING: -- after May 1, 2021.

MR. ERWIN: Jack, there's a slide showing the process. Can we go back to that in the presentation maybe just real quick?

MR. CUSHING: Sure. That's back -- these are the dates for the slides. But it's the slide --

(Simultaneous speaking.)

MS. WILLINGHAM: Number 5 maybe or around there.

MR. CUSHING: Yeah, there it is. So right now we're in the scoping process. That oval box there. And we're gathering information from you on the scope and the parameters that we should consider in the Generic Environmental Impact Statement.

After we're done with that, we issue the Draft Generic Environmental Impact Statement. And then we issue that for comments because we want to make sure we got it right and consider everybody's, you get a chance to comment on it. And we would revise the draft appropriately and issue it as a Final

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Generic Environmental Impact Statement.

So the next meeting would be after the Draft GEIS is issued. And we would, to notify people, we'll do it in the same manner, a Federal Register Notice. We'll put it up on our public meeting website. So, and we'd also send out press releases on the exact date for the meeting.

MR. MUSSATTI: All right. Jack, thank you for that. Let's go one more time up to Audrey and see if there's anybody else that's got a question.

OPERATOR: I do have a question at this time. Monte Sanford, your line is open.

DR. SANFORD: Hello. Thank you for the meeting. My name is Dr. Monte Sanford. I'm a consultant with the Shoshone-Bannock Tribes up in Idaho, over in Idaho.

I'm wondering two things. Number one, I suppose the question is for Jack. Do you know if any projects that are currently proposed or preliminary discussions of projects at the Idaho National Laboratory would fall under the Advanced Reactor GEIS?

And then the second question, just generally, do you have any forecasts of projects

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coming down the pipeline that would fall under this GEIS?

MR. ERWIN: Well, Monte, the -- right now, we've received a site-specific application for Oklo that will be located on Idaho National Laboratory.

However, it's a timing issue for this because it can't, Oklo can't reference the Generic Environmental Impact Statement because it hasn't been developed yet. So, they will be doing their own site-specific environmental review.

And I'm sure they will be contacting the Shoshone-Bannock Tribes. Right now, we're in the acceptance review process. But once they accept it, I am sure they'll be contacting the Shoshone-Bannock Tribe.

And for INL projects, you probably should contact INL to find out what other projects they may have that may be of interest to the Tribe.

MR. MUSSATTI: Okay. Audrey, is there anybody else?

OPERATOR: I show no additional questions or comments at this time. As a reminder, please press *1 on your phone and record your name if

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you have a question or comment.

MR. MUSSATTI: All right. I don't see anything showing up on the chat as well. So, I'm going to give a little, a ten count here and see if somebody comes up on the phones. And if we don't get somebody, I'll commence closing the meeting out. Still nothing?

OPERATOR: Still nothing.

MR. MUSSATTI: Okay. Well, it looks like we've reached the end of the meeting.

On behalf of the NRC staff, I'd like to commend you on how smoothly this meeting went. It's an experiment for us. We haven't done very many of these fully long-distance meetings like this. And we're still learning. So, we appreciate your patience with us.

And if you would please take a moment to go online and fill out a feedback form to help us make future public meetings by WebEx even better, you can go to our website, the nrc.gov, and type NRC Form 659 in the search window on the upper right side of the page and follow the links.

When you're done with the form, you can mail it back to us. The form folds into its own

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postage-paid mailer for your convenience.

Now I'm going to turn the meeting over to Ken. Ken.

MR. ERWIN: Okay. Thanks, Dan. And thanks, everyone, for your participation. Just before I guess normally close out the meeting, I do want to maybe add one little bit to what Jack said before.

You know, the NRC can still do its NEPA reviews and its NEPA process without the GEIS. So, in terms of forecasting and stuff like that, we don't really forecast. We're just doing the GEIS to try and improve the efficiency of our reviews.

Yeah, so thank you so much for your participation and comments. We really appreciate it. And we would look forward to hearing, you know, your written comments and insights.

I think the best way probably to get these to us is our email, which is showing up on the screen, AdvancedReactors-GEIS@nrc.gov. And with that, I will close the meeting out. Thank you.

OPERATOR: All right. That concludes today's conference. Thank you very much for participating. You may disconnect at this time.

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Speakers, please allow a moment of silence and stand by for your post-conference.

(Whereupon, the above-entitled matter went off the record at 2:03 p.m.)

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