

From: Allen Hengst <ahengst@verizon.net>
Sent: Thursday, June 11, 2020 11:57 AM
To: AdvancedReactors-GEIS Resource
Subject: [External_Sender] Docket IDNRC-2020-0101

Nuclear Regulatory Commission

RE: Docket IDNRC-2020-0101

Dear ,

Mr. Erwin:

I strongly oppose the NRC's proposal to produce a "generic" environmental impact statement (GEIS) for "small-scale advanced nuclear reactors." The stated purpose of this proposal is to "streamline" the environmental review process for unknown, untested types of nuclear reactors. Needless to say, this would contradict NRC's primary mission to protect the public health and safety, not to promote the commercial nuclear energy industry.

Moreover, NRC must consider the futility of streamlining the environmental review and licensing process for ANRs due to the realities of climate change and the evolution of energy alternatives. "Advanced" nuclear reactors cannot be safely licensed and built quickly enough to address climate change, if any of them prove commercially viable at all. The international scientific consensus is that the world must be well on the way to phasing out fossil fuels by 2030: 40-60% reductions in greenhouse gas emissions (from 1990 levels) by 2030; and industrial nations like the US would need to achieve reductions at the high end of that range. By every reasonable assessment ANR designs (small-scale or large-) would not be ready for widespread commercial deployment until the 2030s or 2040s.

NRC must include a realistic, balanced, evidence-based assessment of climate change, energy alternatives, and the trajectory of the energy industry in all of its environmental reviews going forward. Therefore, the NRC must abandon the proposal for a streamlined environmental review and licensing process for small-scale advanced nuclear reactors (and ANRs of any size).

Sincerely,
Allen Hengst

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Federal Register Notice: 85FR24040
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