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**Docket:** NRC-2015-0225

Emergency Preparedness Requirements for Small Modular Reactors and Other New Technologies

**Comment On:** NRC-2015-0225-0071

Emergency Preparedness for Small Modular Reactors and Other New Technologies; Proposed Rule

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## Submitter Information

**Name:** Traber Schroeder

**Address:**

5020 SW Slavin Rd

Apt 13

Portland, OR, 97239

**Email:** traber.schroeder@gmail.com

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## General Comment

Nuclear Power is VITAL to defeating climate change and unleashing American competition in the marketplace. International forces are aggressively pursuing 'green-field' nuclear with state-subsidized technology in growing economies and are already asserting dominance in the nuclear field abroad. The United States - the first country to successfully commercialize nuclear power - MUST not fall behind in this nuclear power race. The fate of not only the climate but also of American jobs, industry, credibility, and leadership is at stake.

By reducing the mandatory evacuation zone required for new passively-safe small modular reactors, the NRC has a chance to foster a technology that could quite literally rewrite the book not just on nuclear technology but on climate action and the perception of nuclear safety

in the public at large. These plant designs are inherently safe, free from the flaws of 40+ year old designs, and incorporate the best and brightest ideas and technologies this country can offer. Saddling such a new and innovative technology with rules based on fear and overly stringent regulations of decades-old technology is not only foolhardy but counter productive.

The NRC must not regulate new nuclear into non-competitiveness. This technology is revolutionary, and only through onerous and superfluous regulations could it be hampered and prevented from having the full impact it is due. I urge the NRC to consider reducing the evacuation zone around modular small reactors - free the shackles on this technology and let it compete in the fair and open market for the title of most effective zero-carbon power technology. BE THE CHANGE you want to see in the world, and make this rule so that Small Modular Reactors can remain competitive and start turning the tide against climate change and the slow death of the American Nuclear industry.