

Public Meeting ADVANCE Act Section 507 Reactor Oversight Process

December 10, 2024

ADVANCE Act Section 507 Public Meeting

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 **U.S.NRC**
United States Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Protecting people and the environment

Time	Topic	Speaker
9:30am	Introductions and Opening Remarks	NRC & NEI
9:35am	Opening Remarks from the Core Team	NRC
9:40am	Update to “Accelerating Deployment of Versatile, Advanced Nuclear for Clean Energy Act of 2024” (ADVANCE Act) Section 507 Oversight and Inspection for Operating Reactors	Phil McKenna, NRC
10:30am	Open Discussion	NRC, NEI, Industry
11:30am	Additional Opportunity for Public Comments	Members of the Public
11:50am	Action Items & Closing Remarks	NRC & NEI
Noon	Meeting Adjourn	

Non-NRC participants, please send an email to Brian.Benney@nrc.gov to record your attendance.

Materials are available at the following link:

<https://www.nrc.gov/pmns/mtg?do=details&Code=20241443>



Introductions and Opening Remarks



Purpose

- To share information on ADVANCE Act Section 507
- Improving Oversight and Inspection Programs through:
 - An Overview of ADVANCE Act Section 507
 - A Discussion of NRC Staff Ideas Considerations
 - Identification of Opportunities

This meeting was first noticed on November 20, 2024



ADVANCE Act Overview



Opening Remarks

NRC Core Team

For the Implementation of the ADVANCE Act of 2024

Shilp Vasavada, Executive Technical Assistant

Luis Betancourt, Executive Technical Assistant

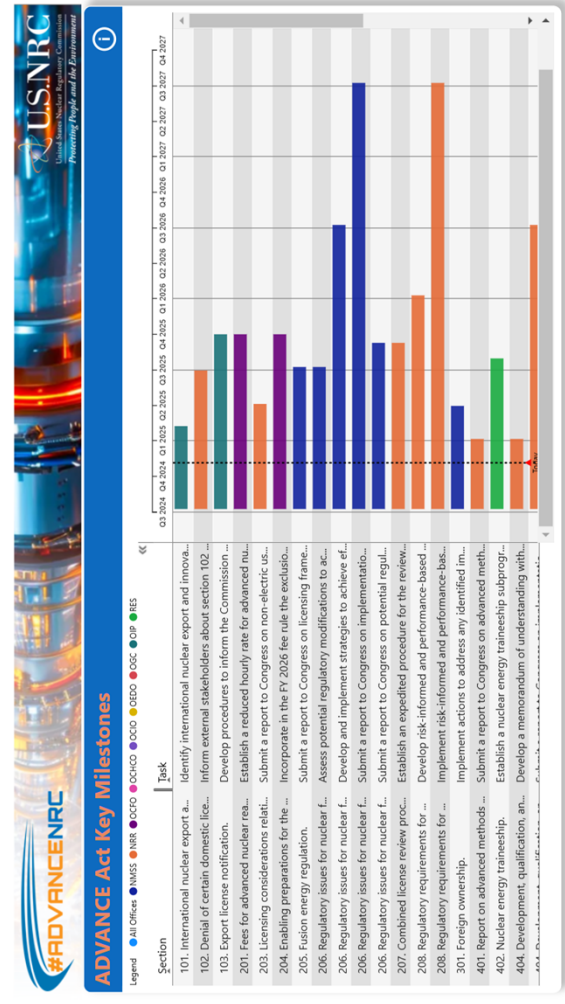
Aaron McCraw, Sr. Communications Specialist



To Stay Informed of Progress



Follow NRC's ADVANCE Act implementation with this Dashboard





ADVANCE Act Section 507 Reactor Oversight Process

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NRR/DRO
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Implementing the ADVANCE Act

- The Accelerating Deployment of Versatile, Advanced Nuclear for Clean Energy Act of 2024, also known as the ADVANCE Act, was signed into law in July 2024.
- The ADVANCE Act requires the NRC to take specific actions, including actions related to improving oversight and inspection programs.
- Specific to the ROP, the Act directed review of (among other things):
 - Use of travel resources
 - Planning/preparation for inspections and entrance/exit meetings
 - Cross-cutting issues program
 - Balance of resources commensurate with safety significance
 - Balance of resources based on licensee performance



Provide Comments or Feedback



As we assess the considerations we are presenting here today, we welcome any feedback from the industry or members of the public.

<https://www.nrc.gov/about-nrc/governing-laws/advance-act/contactus.html>



Schedule

- Public meeting (December 10, 2024)
- Additional public meeting for comments and feedback (Proposed for January 15, 2025)
- SECY to Commission (TBD 2025)
- Report to Congress (July 13, 2025)
- Implementation (ongoing)



Current Implementation Activities

- Engineering inspections
 - Scheduled effectiveness review to begin 4th quarter 2025 to identify any changes
- Emergency preparedness
 - Emergency Response Facility (ERF) Performance Indicator
 - Significance Determination Process (SDP) Revision
- Security
 - Working group to revise SDP
- Cyber Security
 - Working group to evaluate the structure, staffing, and frequency of the inspection procedure (IP) 71130.10, "Cybersecurity."



- Enhancements for sustained higher performance
- Adjustments to Problem Identification & Resolution (PI&R) team inspection
- Engineering Inspections:
 - Comprehensive Engineering Team Inspection (CETI) staffing review
 - Focused Engineering Inspections (FEIs) onsite and remote weeks
- Inspection finding screening and documentation
- Action Matrix simplification
- Team inspection efficiencies



Sustained Higher Performance Ideas

- Credit sustained higher performance in Action Matrix*
- Adjust PI&R team inspection frequency and number of members*
- Adjust other team inspections*
- Reduce baseline samples*
- Re-Baseline ROP for all licensees?*

*Management Directive (MD) 8.13 governs Commission notification and approval of ROP revisions.



PI&R Team Inspection Ideas

- Reduction in frequency*
- Team size scaled for performance (reduction for sustained higher performance)*
 - Could be a Supplemental Inspection*
- One week onsite and one week remote

*Management Directive (MD) 8.13 governs Commission notification and approval of ROP revisions.



Inspection Finding Screening and Documentation Ideas

- Cross-cutting Issues Program Revision*
- Evaluate current practice of dual-path findings (Reactor Oversight Process and Traditional Enforcement)
- Reduce scope of documentation for Green/SL-IV findings/Non-Cited Violations
 - Similar to Licensee-Identified Violations with more description of the issue.

*Management Directive (MD) 8.13 governs Commission notification and approval of ROP revisions.



Assessment Ideas

- Licensee-identified White findings/violations would not result in Action Matrix movement
 - Targeted follow-up (IP 71152) or supplemental (IP 95001) inspection would still occur
- White findings would no longer aggregate to a Degraded Cornerstone*

*Management Directive (MD) 8.13 governs Commission notification and approval of ROP revisions.



Team Inspection Ideas

- Entrance meeting optional
- Virtual exit meetings unless otherwise indicated
- NRC Requests for Licensee Documentation: Upgraded NRC Library to simplify access to documentation already in NRC possession
- Reduce onsite time to one week and make other week remote (for two-week inspections)



Longer-Term Ideas

- Re-evaluation of Performance Indicators (PIs)
 - Potential to shift more oversight from inspection to PIs
 - Simplify submission process
- Engineering inspection changes
 - Proposed for start of new cycle January 2027
- Organizational Structures



Implementation

- Management Directive (MD) 8.13 governs Commission notification and approval of ROP revisions.
 - Options for major ROP revisions will be in SECY to Commission in 2025. This will include Commission notification items.
 - Some items may be implemented before report to Congress



Industry Comments



Public Comments



Closing Remarks

