

**Accelerating Deployment of Versatile,
Advanced Nuclear for Clean Energy Act of
2024
(ADVANCE Act of 2024)
Section 207 - Combined License Review
Procedure**

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January 28, 2025

Opening Remarks

NRC Core Team

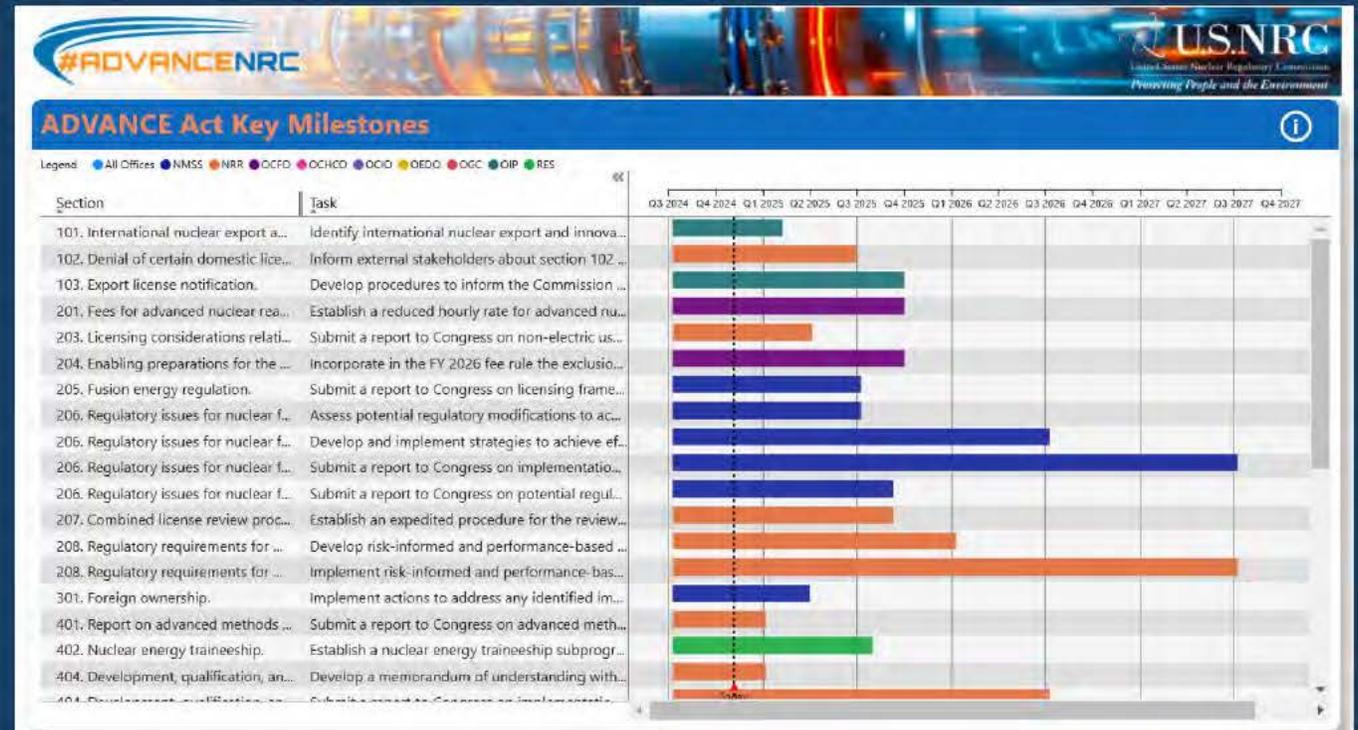
For the Implementation of the ADVANCE Act of 2024

Mike King, Special Assistant for ADVANCE Act
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Luis Betancourt, Executive Technical Assistant
Aaron McCraw, Sr. Communications Specialist

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For Upcoming and Past Meetings



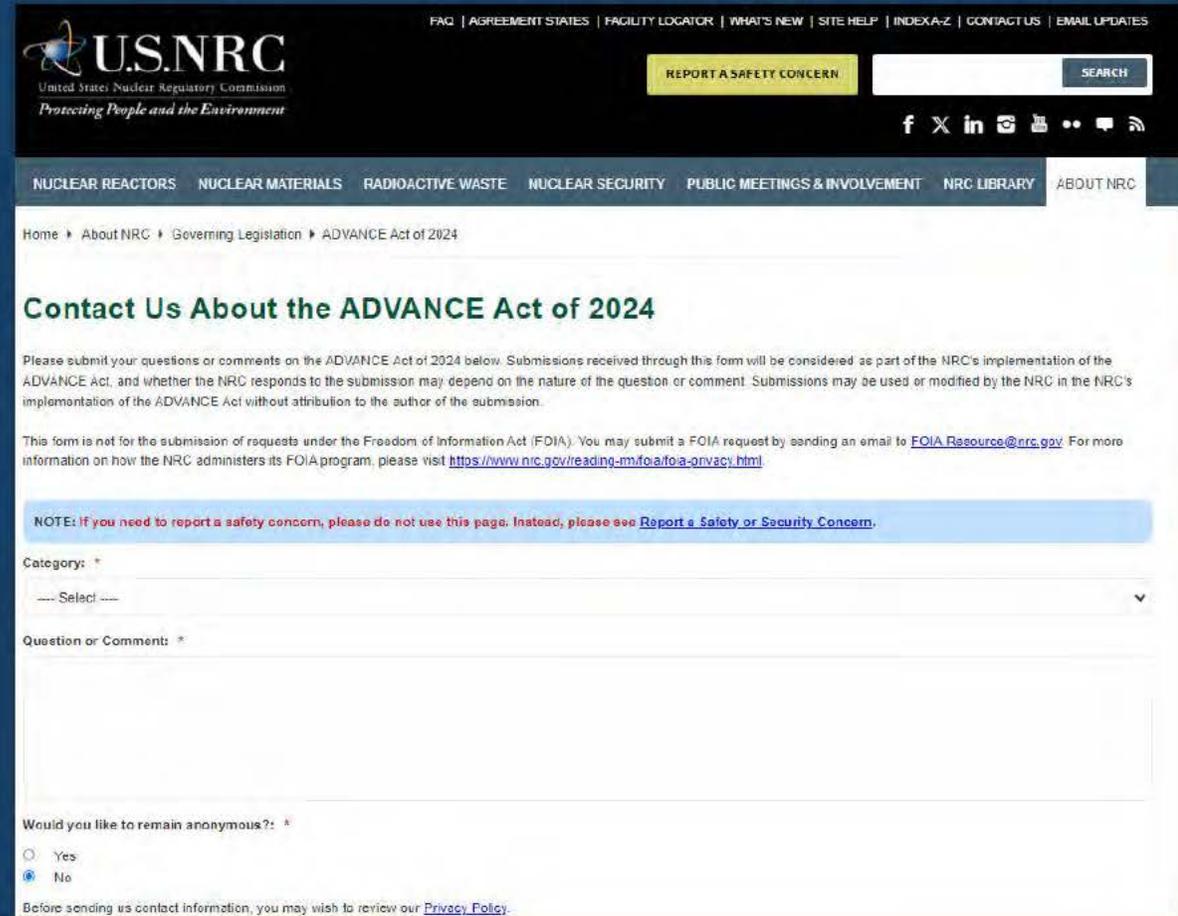
For NRC's public meeting information on ADVANCE Act

A screenshot of the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) website. The page features the NRC logo and navigation links at the top. The main heading reads "ADVANCE Act (Accelerating Deployment of Versatile, Advanced Nuclear for Clean Energy Act of 2024)". Below the heading is a photograph of President Joe Biden signing the bill in the Oval Office, surrounded by other officials. At the bottom of the page, there is a navigation menu with two sections: "Public Meetings" and "Questions, Comments, or Ideas". Under "Public Meetings", there are two links: "Upcoming Meetings" and "Past Meetings". A large orange arrow points from the "Past Meetings" link towards the left side of the page. Under "Questions, Comments, or Ideas", there is a link: "Contact Us about the ADVANCE Act".

For Your Questions and Ideas



Contact us with ADVANCE Act questions, comments and ideas



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Contact Us About the ADVANCE Act of 2024

Please submit your questions or comments on the ADVANCE Act of 2024 below. Submissions received through this form will be considered as part of the NRC's implementation of the ADVANCE Act, and whether the NRC responds to the submission may depend on the nature of the question or comment. Submissions may be used or modified by the NRC in the NRC's implementation of the ADVANCE Act without attribution to the author of the submission.

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Purpose

To receive your ideas and comments on the implementation of ADVANCE Act Section 207 – Combined License Review Procedure through:

- A section-by-section discussion of the requirements
- Identification of ideas and comments received to date
- A discussion of the initial staff considerations

This Public Meeting was noticed on December 12, 2024.

ADVANCE Act of 2024

The ADVANCE Act of 2024 was passed with bipartisan support and signed by President Biden in July 2024. It requires the NRC to take a number of actions, particularly in the areas of licensing of new reactors and fuels, while maintaining the NRC's core mission to protect public health and safety. The Act affects a wide range of NRC activities, including by supporting the recruitment and retention of the NRC workforce, adding flexibility in the NRC's budgeting process, enhancing the regulatory framework for advanced reactors and fusion technology, and requiring initiatives to support the NRC's efficient, timely, and predictable reviews of license applications.

ADVANCE Act of 2024, Section 207 Combined License Review Procedure

(a) IN GENERAL.—In accordance with this section, the Commission shall establish and carry out an expedited procedure for issuing a combined license pursuant to section 185 b. of the Atomic Energy Act of 1954 (42 U.S.C. 2235(b)).

ADVANCE Act of 2024, Section 207 Combined License Review Procedure

(b) QUALIFICATIONS.—To qualify for the expedited procedure under subsection (a), an applicant—

(1) shall submit a combined license application for a new nuclear reactor that—

(A) references a design for which the Commission has issued a design certification (as defined in section 52.1 of title 10, Code of Federal Regulations (or any successor regulation)); or

(B) has a design that is substantially similar to a design of a nuclear reactor for which the Commission has issued a combined license, an operating license, or a manufacturing license under the Atomic Energy Act of 1954 (42 U.S.C. 2011 et seq.);

ADVANCE Act of 2024, Section 207 Combined License Review Procedure

- (2) shall propose to construct the new nuclear reactor on a site—
 - (A) on which a licensed commercial nuclear reactor operates or previously operated; or
 - (B) that is directly adjacent to a site on which a licensed commercial nuclear reactor operates or previously operated and has site characteristics that are substantially similar to that site; and
- (3) may not be subject to an order of the Commission to suspend or revoke a license under section 2.202 of title 10, Code of Federal Regulations (or any successor regulation).

ADVANCE Act of 2024, Section 207 Combined License Review Procedure

(c) EXPEDITED PROCEDURE.—With respect to a combined license for which the applicant has satisfied the requirements described in subsection (b), the Commission shall, to the maximum extent practicable—

(1) not later than 18 months after the date on which the application is accepted for docketing—

- (A) complete the technical review process and issue a safety evaluation report; and
- (B) issue a final environmental impact statement or environmental assessment, unless the Commission finds that the proposed agency action is excluded pursuant to a categorical exclusion in accordance with the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (42 U.S.C. 4321 et seq.);

ADVANCE Act of 2024, Section 207 Combined License Review Procedure

(2) not later than 2 years after the date on which the application is accepted for docketing, complete any necessary public licensing hearings and related processes; and

(3) not later than 25 months after the date on which the application is accepted for docketing, make a final decision on whether to issue the combined license.

ADVANCE Act of 2024, Section 207 Combined License Review Procedure

(d) PERFORMANCE AND REPORTING.—

(1) DELAYS IN ISSUANCE.—Not later than 30 days after the applicable deadline, the Executive Director for Operations of the Commission shall inform the Commission of any failure to meet a deadline under subsection (c).

ADVANCE Act of 2024, Section 207 Combined License Review Procedure

(2) DELAYS IN ISSUANCE EXCEEDING 90 DAYS.— If any deadline under subsection (c) is not met by the date that is 90 days after the applicable date required under that subsection, the Commission shall submit to the appropriate committees of Congress a report describing the delay, including—

- a detailed explanation accounting for the delay; and
- a plan for completion of the applicable action.

NRC Staff Plans to Address ADVANCE Act Section 207

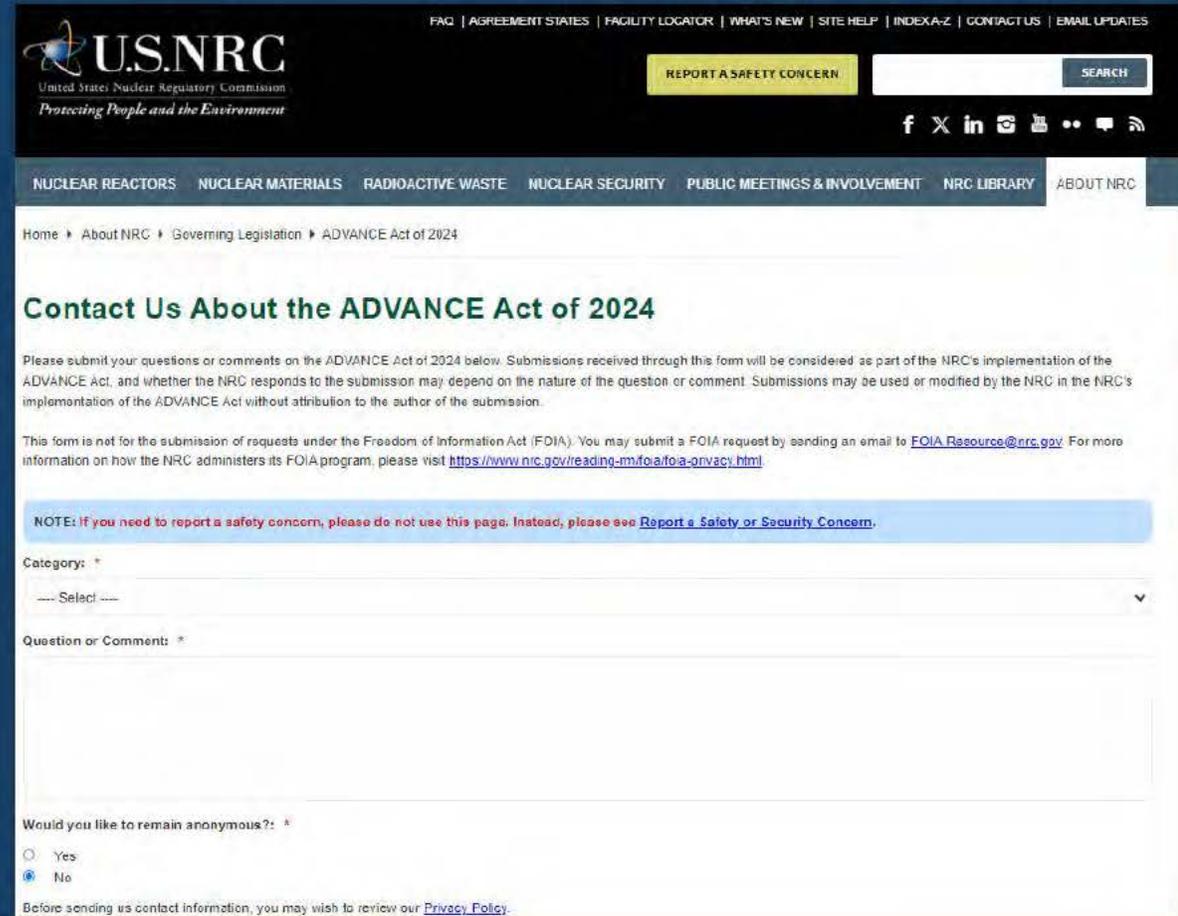
- The NRC staff initiated seeking stakeholder input on an expedited review procedure for COL applications.
 - The NRC staff conducted an information sharing discussion during the December 12, 2024, Advanced Reactor Stakeholder Meeting.
- The NRC staff is considering issuing a Regulatory Issue Summary to address the requirements in Section 207.



For Your Questions and Ideas



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