



NRC NEWS

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NRC ISSUES ADVANCED REACTOR DESIGN POLICY

The Nuclear Regulatory Commission has published the latest update to its policy statement on advanced nuclear power plant designs.

The policy provides expectations and guidance on safety, security and preparedness-related issues so, as a matter of prudence, designers can address them early in the development of advanced reactors. The policy encourages the earliest possible interactions between the NRC and reactor vendors, potential applicants, the public, and other government agencies.

The Commission believes designers should consider several reactor characteristics, including:

- Highly reliable, less complex safe shutdown systems, particularly ones with inherent or passive safety features;
- Simplified safety systems that allow more straightforward engineering analysis, operate with fewer operator actions and increase operator comprehension of reactor conditions;
- Concurrent consideration of safety and security requirements while designing a facility, resulting in an overall security system that requires fewer human actions;
- Features that prevent a simultaneous breach of containment and loss of core cooling from an aircraft impact, or that inherently delay any radiological release, and;
- Features that maintain spent fuel pool integrity following an aircraft impact.

The policy will be available on the NRC Web site at: <http://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/doc-collections/commission/policy/>.

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