



UNITED STATES
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20555-0001

March 7, 2022

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STATE LIAISON OFFICERS
INDIAN TRIBES WITHIN 50 MILES OF REACTORS

NOTICE OF PROPOSED RULE FOR COMMENT: REGULATORY IMPROVEMENTS FOR
PRODUCTION AND UTILIZATION FACILITIES TRANSITIONING TO DECOMMISSIONING
AND NOTICE OF UPCOMING PUBLIC MEETINGS (STC-22-010)

Purpose: To provide notice of (1) the publication of the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission's (NRC) request for public comment on the proposed rule related to decommissioning of production and utilization facilities, (2) the publication of four NRC draft regulatory guides for public comment, and (3) public meetings tentatively scheduled for March 21 and March 31, 2022.

Background: The NRC is proposing to amend its regulations related to decommissioning of production and utilization facilities. Earlier opportunities for stakeholder input included requests for comment on an advance notice of proposed rulemaking (80 FR 72358; November 19, 2015) and a draft regulatory basis document (82 FR 13778; March 15, 2017). The NRC staff published a regulatory basis document on November 27, 2017 (82 FR 55954).

Discussion: The NRC published the enclosed proposed rule in the *Federal Register* on March 3, 2022 ([87 FR 12254](#)). The notice contains details on how to submit comments, and comments are due by May 17, 2022. The NRC is also publishing four draft regulatory guides for public comment in parallel with the proposed rule. The *Federal Register* notice and documents related to this rulemaking are posted on the Federal rulemaking website, <https://www.regulations.gov>, under Docket ID [NRC-2015-0070](#). Additional information about the proposed rule, including related documents and details about upcoming public meetings, will be posted on the NRC public website at <https://www.nrc.gov/waste/decommissioning/reg-guides-comm/regulations/reg-improv-trans-to-decom.html>.

This rulemaking would amend the NRC's regulations to provide an appropriate regulatory framework for nuclear facilities transitioning from operations to decommissioning. The goals of this rulemaking are to maintain a safe, effective, and efficient decommissioning process; reduce the need for license amendment requests and exemptions from existing regulations; address other decommissioning issues deemed relevant by the NRC; and support the NRC's Principles of Good Regulation, including openness, clarity, and reliability. The rulemaking would address lessons learned from licensees that have completed or are currently in the decommissioning process. The rulemaking also would align regulatory requirements with the reduction in risk that occurs over time, while continuing to maintain safety and security. The scope of this rulemaking would affect production and utilization facilities.

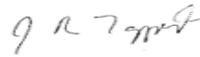
Among other changes, the proposed rule would add a new section (Title 10 of the *Code of Federal Regulations* (10 CFR) Section 50.200, “Power reactor decommissioning emergency plans”) to the regulations that provides an alternative, graded approach to the current requirements for onsite and offsite radiological emergency preparedness at a nuclear power reactor. This approach would provide four levels of emergency planning standards that coincide with significant milestones in decommissioning that reflect the gradual reduction of the radiological risk during decommissioning.

If you have any questions regarding this rulemaking or this correspondence, please contact the individual named below.

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Sincerely,



Signed by Tappert, John
on 03/07/22

John Tappert, Director
Division of Rulemaking, Environmental,
and Financial Support
Office of Nuclear Material Safety
and Safeguards

SUBJECT: NOTICE OF PROPOSED RULE FOR COMMENT: REGULATORY IMPROVEMENTS FOR PRODUCTION AND UTILIZATION FACILITIES TRANSITIONING TO DECOMMISSIONING AND NOTICE OF UPCOMING PUBLIC MEETINGS (STC-22-010) DATED March 7, 2022

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