

## NARUC Workshop: Nuclear Regulatory Modernization

Wednesday, February 26, 1:00 – 4:30 pm ET | Westin DC Downtown, Rock Creek Ballroom

Supported by the U.S. Department of Energy, Office of Nuclear Energy

*Open to commissioners and commission staff, State Energy Office staff, and invited guests, pending availability. Contact Kiera Zitelman at [kzitelman@naruc.org](mailto:kzitelman@naruc.org) to request an invite.*

Register: <https://forms.office.com/r/GrBgB3UCKQ>

Following the passage of the ADVANCE Act in July 2024, the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission is implementing reforms toward the efficient regulation of advanced nuclear reactors. This workshop will engage state public utility commissions, NRC and DOE representatives, and invited experts to learn about the Commission’s regulatory modernization initiatives, share information about advanced reactor licensing timelines, identify strategies to enhance the economic and safety regulation of advanced reactors, and discuss opportunities for federal-state collaboration and public-private partnerships.

Time (ET)	Title	Speakers
1:00 – 1:15	<b>Welcome, agenda overview, and introductions</b> Workshop facilitators and NARUC leadership will welcome the group and summarize the agenda. Speakers and state participants will introduce themselves.	<b>Tony Clark</b> , Executive Director, NARUC  <b>Kathryn Kline</b> , Senior Technical Advisor, NARUC  <b>Kiera Zitelman</b> , Technical Director, NARUC  Representative, U.S. Department of Energy, Office of Nuclear Energy
1:15 – 1:45	<b>Advanced Reactors Outlook and Economic Assessment for the U.S. and Canada</b> The development of advanced nuclear reactor technologies is heavily dependent on market and policy conditions as technologies continue to mature and move through regulatory processes. This EPRI analysis investigates the conditions under which advanced nuclear power could play a role in the American and Canadian energy sectors. Using EPRI’s NA-REGEN energy-economic model, the report finds that market and policy changes may be required to spur stronger advanced reactor deployment. The results show substantial variation in the regional economic viability of advanced reactors. An EPRI representative will give an overview of the assessment and answer questions from regulators.	<b>Francisco Fonseca</b> , Climate and Energy Analyst, EPRI  <b>Hon. Radina Valova</b> , New York
1:45 – 2:45	<b>Regulatory Modernization at the NRC</b>	<b>Mike King</b> , Special Assistant for ADVANCE Act,

	<p>The Accelerating Deployment of Versatile, Advanced Nuclear for Clean Energy (ADVANCE) Act, passed in July 2024, directed the NRC to streamline and accelerate regulatory processes for advanced reactors. In January 2025, the NRC updated its mission statement to prioritize “enabling the safe and secure use and deployment of civilian nuclear energy technologies and radioactive materials through efficient and reliable licensing, oversight, and regulation for the benefit of society and the environment.” This session will discuss initiatives underway at the NRC to achieve the goals specified in the ADVANCE Act, with a focus on workforce modernization and retention to prepare for increased activity in the advanced reactor industry, as well as productive collaboration to accelerate new reactor licensing.</p>	<p>Office of the Executive Director for Operations, NRC</p> <p><b>Doug True</b>, Chief Nuclear Officer and Senior Vice President, Nuclear Energy Institute</p> <p><b>Hon. Marcus Hawkins</b>, Wisconsin</p>
2:45 – 3:00	Break	
3:00 – 3:30	<p><b>Palisades Restart Approach, Status, and Challenges</b></p> <p>Holtec International has proposed to be the first U.S. nuclear owner to restart a shuttered plant: the 800 MW Palisades nuclear power plant in western Michigan. This session will highlight the NRC’s Palisades Restart Panel, charged with guiding NRC staff efforts to ensure the plant is ready to resume production of approximately 800 MW of carbon-free power after ceasing operations in May 2022, with the potential to add small modular reactors in the future. NRC staff will discuss public outreach, inspections, and regulatory oversight as the potential restart proceeds. And with the prospect of additional plant restarts at NextEra’s 622-MW Duane Arnold Energy Center in Iowa and Constellation’s 835-MW Crane Clean Energy Center in Pennsylvania, this session will discuss how the NRC might replicate or adapt the Palisades Restart Panel approach to other restart requests.</p>	<p><b>April Nguyen</b>, Lead of Restart Project Team in US NRC Region 3 Office, NRC</p> <p><b>Justin Poole</b>, Senior Project Manager, Division of Operator Reactor Licensing, Leading Restart Projects, NRC</p> <p><b>Hon. Katherine Peretick</b>, Michigan</p>
3:30 – 4:15	<p><b>Facilitating Uprate Transactions</b></p> <p>The existing U.S. nuclear generation fleet has the potential to generate more electricity through uprates. This session will explore how much additional power could be unlocked through uprates to meet growing short-term demand, options for customers to pay for uprates, and the role of state and federal regulators and the U.S. Department of Energy in facilitating both uprates and new nuclear generation to serve growing load.</p>	<p><b>Julie Kozeracki</b>, Director of Strategy, Loan Programs Office, U.S. Department of Energy</p> <p><b>Hon. Carolee Williams</b>, South Carolina</p>
4:15 – 4:30	<b>Conclude and Adjourn</b>	