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NRC Publishes Amendments to Regulations on Reactor License Renewal Environmental Reviews

The Nuclear Regulatory Commission is publishing its new amendments to its environmental protection regulations governing environmental impact reviews of nuclear power plant operating license renewals.

The [amendments](#), approved by the Commission in December, redefine the number and scope of environmental issues that must be addressed, and incorporate lessons learned from previous license renewal reviews and public comments on the proposed rule. Since December, the information collection requirements in the final rule were approved by the Office of Management and Budget.

License renewal environmental reviews are governed by regulations (10 CFR Part 51) implemented in 1996 and the NRC's Generic Environmental Impact Statement (GEIS) for License Renewal of Nuclear Plants, NUREG-1437.

The amendments contained in the final rule, published today in the [Federal Register](#), become effective in 30 days, but compliance will not be required for one year. Separate notices also published today announced the availability of the [revised GEIS](#), as well as [regulatory guidance](#) and standard review plan for the final rule.