



10. Reduce force-on-force security drills at plants. More drills than are notionally required are being done to comply with a requirement that every single officer can perform in a drill. Plants conduct more than 10 per year to meet the goal, even though only four are required.

11. Eliminate the possibility of getting a white violation during emergency preparedness drills. Green violations should be the maximum possible violation during drills. White violations should be reserved only for actual emergency events.

12. Provide more commission oversight and prioritization of the ACRS. The Advisory Committee on Reactor Safeguards is very useful for reviewing new and novel things, but the NRC staff's technical capabilities have dramatically improved since the ACRS's founding in the early days of the AEC. They should be focused on new and novel things

and redundancy with staff capabilities and work should be minimized.

The nuclear industry does have a policy wing that's heavily engaged in ongoing reforms, so I didn't really expect to find anything too surprising. But even with the big nuclear executive orders coming out, it still seemed worthwhile talking to friends and their networks to get the latest info.

A big thanks to all respondents to the survey, and a huge thanks to the policy professionals who guided and taught me much about this space and who have worked tirelessly to implement these and other reforms. I'm humbled and thankful for their guidance and support. ☒

Nick Touran is a nuclear engineer in the Washington, D.C.-Baltimore area who is focused on finding ways to get new nuclear plants built faster and cheaper.



The International Conference
for the Management of
Radioactive Waste
& Related Topics

Efficient and Innovative
Nuclear Materials
and Technology Solutions

SAVE THE DATE!

**MARCH 8 - 12
2026**

PHOENIX CONVENTION CENTER

Phoenix, AZ, USA

Visit wmsym.org
for More Information