


to review advanced reactors.”

The GAO has recommended that the NRC chair direct staff to take the following actions:

- Develop procedures for establishing and managing a review schedule for an incomplete application, including applications for first-of-a-kind designs.
- Finalize draft preapplication guidance to clarify the extent to which advanced reactor developers should participate in preapplication activities.
- Establish benchmarks and measures to assess its recruitment, relocation, and retention incentives and strategies to determine their effectiveness, to help the NRC retain and hire the staff necessary to license advanced reactors.
- Clarify in information provided to advanced reactor developers how and when they should engage with the ACRS during the licensing process.

“With this report, the GAO confirms that the Nuclear Regulatory Commission needs to do more to prepare to efficiently review and approve advanced nuclear reactor designs,” Sen. Capito said. “The United States should lead the world in developing and deploying reliable advanced nuclear energy, and Congress is poised to provide the NRC the tools and direction to enable the safe use of these technologies. We took a major step forward in accomplishing these shared goals with the inclusion of my bipartisan bill, the Accelerating Deployment of Versatile, Advanced Nuclear for Clean Energy [ADVANCE] Act, in this year’s National Defense Authorization Act, and I look forward to working with my colleagues to ensure the ADVANCE Act is signed into law this year.”

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