

(C) Partner nations

The Project may involve demonstration of selected project objectives in a partner country.

(D) Generation IV International Forum

The Secretary shall ensure that international activities of the Project are coordinated with the Generation IV International Forum.

(3) Review by Nuclear Energy Research Advisory Committee**(A) In general**

The Nuclear Energy Research Advisory Committee of the Department (referred to in this paragraph as the “NERAC”) shall—

- (i) review all program plans for the Project and all progress under the Project on an ongoing basis; and
- (ii) ensure that important scientific, technical, safety, and program management issues receive attention in the Project and by the Secretary.

(B) Additional expertise

The NERAC shall supplement the expertise of the NERAC or appoint subpanels to incorporate into the review by the NERAC the relevant sources of expertise described under paragraph (1).

(C) Initial review

Not later than 180 days after August 8, 2005, the NERAC shall—

- (i) review existing program plans for the Project in light of the recommendations of the document entitled “Design Features and Technology Uncertainties for the Next Generation Nuclear Plant,” dated June 30, 2004; and
- (ii) address any recommendations of the document not incorporated in program plans for the Project.

(D) First project phase review

On a determination by the Secretary that the appropriate activities under the first project phase under subsection (b)(1) are nearly complete, the Secretary shall request the NERAC to conduct a comprehensive review of the Project and to report to the Secretary the recommendation of the NERAC concerning whether the Project is ready to proceed to the second project phase under subsection (b)(2).

(E) Transmittal of reports to Congress

Not later than 60 days after receiving any report from the NERAC related to the Project, the Secretary shall submit to the appropriate committees of the Senate and the House of Representatives a copy of the report, along with any additional views of the Secretary that the Secretary may consider appropriate.

(Pub. L. 109–58, title VI, §643, Aug. 8, 2005, 119 Stat. 795.)

§ 16024. Nuclear Regulatory Commission**(a) In general**

In accordance with section 5842 of this title, the Nuclear Regulatory Commission shall have

licensing and regulatory authority for any reactor authorized under this part.

(b) Licensing strategy

Not later than 3 years after August 8, 2005, the Secretary and the Chairman of the Nuclear Regulatory Commission shall jointly submit to the appropriate committees of the Senate and the House of Representatives a licensing strategy for the prototype nuclear reactor, including—

- (1) a description of ways in which current licensing requirements relating to light-water reactors need to be adapted for the types of prototype nuclear reactor being considered by the Project;
- (2) a description of analytical tools that the Nuclear Regulatory Commission will have to develop to independently verify designs and performance characteristics of components, equipment, systems, or structures associated with the prototype nuclear reactor;
- (3) other research or development activities that may be required on the part of the Nuclear Regulatory Commission in order to review a license application for the prototype nuclear reactor; and
- (4) an estimate of the budgetary requirements associated with the licensing strategy.

(c) Ongoing interaction

The Secretary shall seek the active participation of the Nuclear Regulatory Commission throughout the duration of the Project to—

- (1) avoid design decisions that will compromise adequate safety margins in the design of the reactor or impair the accessibility of nuclear safety-related components of the prototype reactor for inspection and maintenance;
- (2) develop tools to facilitate inspection and maintenance needed for safety purposes; and
- (3) develop risk-based criteria for any future commercial development of a similar reactor architectures.

(Pub. L. 109–58, title VI, §644, Aug. 8, 2005, 119 Stat. 797.)

§ 16025. Project timelines and authorization of appropriations**(a) Target date to complete the first project phase**

Not later than September 30, 2011, the Secretary shall—

- (1) select the technology to be used by the Project for high-temperature hydrogen production and the initial design parameters for the prototype nuclear plant; or
- (2) submit to Congress a report establishing an alternative date for making the selection.

(b) Design competition for second project phase
(1) In general

The Secretary, acting through the Idaho National Laboratory, shall fund not more than 4 teams for not more than 2 years to develop detailed proposals for competitive evaluation and selection of a single proposal for a final design of the prototype nuclear reactor.

(2) Systems integration

The Secretary may structure Project activities in the second project phase to use the lead