

UNITED STATES NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20555-0001

January 9, 2020

The Honorable John A. Barrasso Chairman, Committee on Environment and Public Works United States Senate Washington, DC 20510

Dear Mr. Chairman:

On behalf of the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC), I am submitting this report as required by the Nuclear Energy Innovation and Modernization Act to provide an update on the status of the licensing process for accident tolerant fuel (ATF). In coordination with the U.S. Department of Energy, the potential applicants, and other external stakeholders, the NRC has established a strategy to enable timely reviews of and regulatory actions on ATF concepts while ensuring public health and safety. The enclosed report describes the NRC's progress towards implementing this strategy.

Please feel free to contact me or have your staff contact Eugene Dacus, Director of the Office of Congressional Affairs, at (301) 415-1776, if you have questions or need additional information.

Sincerely,

Kristine L. Svinicki

Enclosure: As stated

cc: Senator Thomas R. Carper

Identical letter sent to:

The Honorable John A. Barrasso Chairman, Committee on Environment and Public Works United States Senate Washington, DC 20510 cc: Senator Thomas R. Carper

The Honorable Frank Pallone, Jr.
Chairman, Committee on Energy
and Commerce
United States House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515
cc: Representative Greg Walden