

Sponsors: Utah Associated Municipal Power Systems; Nebraska Public Power District; MEAG Power

In Support of Nuclear Power and an Efficient and Effective Nuclear Regulatory Commission

1 The American Public Power Association (APPA) believes that nuclear power has a fundamental role to
2 play in the United States’ electricity generating mix. For decades, public power utilities have owned and
3 safely operated nuclear power plants around the country, providing safe, reliable, and emissions-free
4 electricity to their customers.

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6 As public power utilities further reduce greenhouse gas emissions, both in their generation portfolios and
7 through their electrification of appliances, home heating, and transportation, emissions-free, dispatchable
8 nuclear power will be needed not only to meet existing demand, but also to accommodate load growth.
9 Many public power utilities are actively pursuing or considering nuclear power as a part of their future
10 resource mix, including small modular reactors and other advanced nuclear technologies.

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12 For this reason, the safety and reliability of U.S. nuclear power plants is vitally important. The U.S.
13 Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC or Commission) was created by Congress in 1974 to “ensure the
14 safe use of radioactive materials for beneficial civilian purposes while protecting people and the
15 environment.” The NRC is widely considered to be the international gold standard for nuclear regulatory
16 agencies and APPA strongly supports the Commission’s commitment to nuclear safety.

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18 To maintain the current fleet and to bring new nuclear power plants online, the NRC must have regulatory
19 processes in place that are efficient, effective, and appropriate for all types of nuclear technologies. A
20 reasonable and streamlined regulatory process, that doesn’t compromise safety, will ensure nuclear
21 projects are licensed in an efficient manner, reducing the time, and cost, necessary to bring critical new
22 resources online or to relicense existing plants already safely providing power to customers.

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24 **NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED:** That the American Public Power Association (APPA)
25 supports the continued use of nuclear power, a key source of emissions-free, baseload power; and

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27 **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED:** That APPA strongly supports an effective U.S. Nuclear Regulatory
28 Commission (NRC) with a clear and focused commitment to nuclear safety; and

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30 **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED:** That APPA supports efforts to provide the NRC with all the regulatory
31 and statutory tools necessary to streamline the licensing of advanced nuclear generating facilities to
32 shorten the time necessary to win final approval of an application for the operation of a new nuclear unit;
33 and

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35 **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED:** That APPA urges the NRC to finalize a regulatory framework for the
36 licensing of new nuclear plants that takes into account the “standard design” components of applicants to
37 shorten the lengthy review process for the granting of final operating licenses; and

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39 **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED:** That APPA believes NRC fees must be reasonable, transparent, and
40 tied to specific regulatory services provided; and

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42 **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED:** That APPA supports federal efforts to ensure a secure fuel supply
43 chain, both for existing nuclear reactors and advanced nuclear technologies; and

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45 **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED:** That APPA supports federal efforts to further the development of
46 small modular reactors (SMRs), including the licensing and commercialization of SMR technologies for
47 the use of electric utilities in the U.S.; and

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49 **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED:** That APPA supports legislation, programs, incentives, and initiatives
50 that help facilitate accelerated SMR development and commercialization and to maximize the safety,
51 reliability, and efficiency of new and existing nuclear power plants.