



UNITED STATES  
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20555-0001

May 6, 2025

Mr. Adam Lenarz  
Vice President, Commercial Development  
1923 Vermont Ave NW, Suite 300  
Washington DC, 20001

SUBJECT: FEEDBACK ON LAST ENERGY'S WHITE PAPER: HERMETICALLY SEALED  
CONTAINMENT FOR THE NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION PRE-  
APPLICATION REVIEW AND RECOMMENDATIONS FOR CONTINUED  
ENGAGEMENT

Dear Mr. Lenarz,

On April 8, 2025, Last Energy submitted a White Paper titled *Hermetically Sealed Containment* and requested that the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) review and provide observations (Agencywide Documents Access and Management System (ADAMS) Accession No. ML25098A065).

The NRC appreciates the opportunity to review your white paper, which contains a brief discussion of high-level system attributes. The NRC acknowledges that a reactor with inherently safe design features can streamline the review process by reducing the need for complex safety evaluations. Clear articulation of these features early in the process can help focus discussions and facilitate more effective engagement with NRC staff. Currently, the white paper lacks the detailed technical information about a potential reactor design that applicants and NRC staff generally find beneficial during pre-application interactions. As a result, we are unable to provide specific observations regarding your proposed approach.

The NRC does not have specific guidance solely dedicated to the white paper process; however, relevant examples and best practices for pre-application engagements can be found in resources such as Appendix A of Interim Staff Guidance DANU-ISG-2022-05, "Review of Risk-Informed, Technology-Inclusive Advanced Reactor Applications—Roadmap" (ML23277A139), and Regulatory Guide 1.206, Revision 1 (ML18131A181). These documents provide recommended content that applicants have found useful in preparing white paper submittals.

You are welcome to update your submission to include more comprehensive technical details, clearly defined design features, and a well-articulated design basis, which would better facilitate productive discussions and effective engagement with NRC staff. We look forward to future interactions.

If you have any questions regarding this matter, please contact Sean Gallagher, Project Manager, at Sean.Gallagher@nrc.gov or Billy Gleaves, Senior Project Manager, at Bill.Gleaves@nrc.gov.

A. Lenarz

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Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Sean Gallagher".

Signed by Gallagher, Sean  
on 05/06/25

Sean P. Gallagher, Project Manager  
Licensing and Regulatory Infrastructure Branch  
Division of New and Renewed Licenses  
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

Project No. 99902140

cc: GovDelivery

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COMMISSION PRE-APPLICATION REVIEW AND  
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DATED: MAY 6, 2025

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