FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Suzanne H. Plimpton, Reports Clearance Officer, National Science Foundation, Randolph Building, 401 Dulany Street, Alexandria, VA 22314; 703–292–7556; or send email to *splimpto@nsf.gov.* Individuals who use a telecommunications device for the deaf (TDD) may call the Federal Information Relay Service (FIRS) at 1–800–877–8339, which is accessible 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, 365 days a year (including federal holidays).

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: NSF may not conduct or sponsor a collection of information unless the collection of information displays a currently valid OMB control number and the agency informs potential persons who are to respond to the collection of information that such persons are not required to respond to the collection of information unless it displays a currently valid OMB control number.

Title of Collection: Grantee Reporting Requirements for the Emerging Frontiers in Research and Innovation Program.

OMB Number: 3145–0233.

Type of Request: Revision to and extension of approval of an information collection.

Proposed Project: The Emerging Frontiers in Research and Innovation (EFRI) program recommends, prioritizes, and funds interdisciplinary initiatives at the emerging frontier of engineering research and education. These investments represent transformative opportunities, potentially leading to: new research areas for NSF, ENG, and other agencies; new industries or capabilities that result in a leadership position for the country; and/or significant progress on a recognized national need or grand challenge.

Established in 2007, EFRI supports cutting-edge research that is difficult to fund through other NSF programs, such as single-investigator grants or large research centers. EFRI seeks high-risk opportunities with the potential for a large payoff where researchers are encouraged to stretch beyond their ongoing activities. Based on input from workshops, advisory committees, technical meetings, professional societies, research proposals, and suggestions from the research community, the EFRI program identifies those emerging opportunities and manages a formal process for funding their research. The emerging ideas tackled by EFRI are ''frontier'' because they not only push the understood limits of engineering but actually overlap multiple fields. The EFRI funding process inspires investigators with different expertise to work together on one emerging concept.

EFRI awards require multi-disciplinary teams of at least one Principal Investigator and two Co-Principal Investigators. The anticipated duration of all awards is 4-years. With respect to the anticipated funding level, each project team may receive support of up to a total of $2,000,000 spread over four years, pending the availability of funds. In this respect, EFRI awards are above the average single-investigator award amounts.

EFRI-funded projects could include research opportunities and mentoring for educators, scholars, and university students, as well as outreach programs that help stir the imagination of K–12 students.

We are seeking to collect additional information from the grantees about the outcomes of their research that goes above and beyond the standard reporting requirements used by the NSF and spans over a period of 5 years after the award. This data collection effort will enable program officers to longitudinally monitor outputs and outcomes given the unique goals and purpose of the program. This is very important to enable appropriate and accurate evidence-based management of the program and to determine whether or not the specific goals of the program are being met.

Grantees will be requested to submit this information on an annual basis to support performance review and the management of EFRI grants by EFRI officers. EFRI grantees will be requested to submit these indicators to NSF via a data collection website that will be embedded in NSF's IT infrastructure. These indicators are both quantitative and descriptive and may include, for example, the characteristics of project personnel and students; sources of complementary funding and in-kind support to the EFRI project; characteristics of industrial and/or other sector participation; research activities; education activities; knowledge transfer activities; patents, licenses; publications; descriptions of significant advances and other outcomes of the EFRI effort.

Each submission will address the following major categories of activities: (1) knowledge transfer across disciplines, (2) innovation of ideas in areas of great opportunity, (3) potential for translational research, (4) project results that advance the frontier/creation of new fields of study, (5) introduction to the classroom of innovative research methods or discoveries, (6) fostering participation and retention of individuals across the nation in science, and (7) impacting student career trajectory. For each of the categories, the report will enumerate specific outputs and outcomes.

Use of the Information: The data collected will be used for NSF internal reports, historical data, and performance review by peer site visit teams, program level studies and evaluations, and for securing future funding for continued EFRI program maintenance and growth.

Estimate of Burden: Approximately 7 hours per report for approximately 100 reports per year for a total of 700 hours per year.

Respondents: Principal Investigators who lead the EFRI grants, and co-Principal Investigators and trainees involved in EFRI-funded research.

Estimated Number of Responses per Report: PIs are responsible for preparing and submitting reports for each covered grant. Co-PI and trainee researcher contributions to reporting requirements are included in the annual burden estimate of 700 hours.

Dated: June 9, 2026.

Suzanne H. Plimpton,

Reports Clearance Officer,National Science Foundation.

[FR Doc. 2026–11764 Filed 6–10–26; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 7555–01–P

NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

[NRC–2025–0148]

Regulatory Guide: Guidance for Technology-Inclusive Risk-Informed Change Evaluation

AGENCY: Nuclear Regulatory Commission.

ACTION: Final guide; issuance.

SUMMARY: The U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) is issuing new Regulatory Guide (RG) 1.261, ''Guidance for Technology-Inclusive Risk-Informed Change Evaluation.'' This RG describes an approach that the NRC staff finds acceptable for using a technology-inclusive risk-informed change evaluation process for changes to a facility described in final safety analysis reports (as updated). Subject to the clarifications in Section C of the RG, this RG endorses the methodology described in Nuclear Energy Institute (NEI) 22–05, Revision 0, ''Technology Inclusive Risk Informed Change Evaluation (TIRICE), Guidance for the Evaluation of Changes to Facilities Utilizing NEI 18–04 and NEI 21–07,'' issued January 2024.

DATES: RG 1.261 is available on June 11, 2026.

ADDRESSES: Please refer to Docket ID NRC–2025–0148 when contacting the NRC about the availability of information regarding this document. You may obtain publicly available information related to this document using any of the following methods:

- *Federal Rulemaking Website:* Go to *https://www.regulations.gov* and search for Docket ID NRC–2025–0148. Address questions about Docket IDs in *Regulations.gov* to Bridget Curran; telephone: 301–415–1003; email: *Bridget.Curran@nrc.gov.* For technical questions, contact the individuals listed in the **FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT** section of this document.
- *NRC's Agencywide Documents Access and Management System (ADAMS):* You may obtain publicly available documents online in the ADAMS Public Documents collection at *https://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/adams.html.* To begin the search, select ''Begin ADAMS Public Search.'' For problems with ADAMS, please contact the NRC's Public Document Room (PDR) reference staff at 1–800–397–4209, at 301–415–4737, or by email to *PDR.Resource@nrc.gov.* The ADAMS accession number for each document referenced (if it is available in ADAMS) is provided the first time that it is mentioned in this document.
- *NRC's PDR:* The PDR, where you may examine and order copies of publicly available documents, is open by appointment. To make an appointment to visit the PDR, please send an email to *PDR.Resource@nrc.gov* or call 1–800–397–4209 or 301–415–4737, between 8 a.m. and 4 p.m. eastern time (ET), Monday through Friday, except Federal holidays.

RG 1.261 may be found in ADAMS under Accession No. ML26051A063.

RGs are not copyrighted, and NRC approval is not required to reproduce them.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Hannah McLatchie, Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation, telephone: 301–415–8507; email: *Hannah.McLatchie@nrc.gov* and Vance Petrella, Office of Nuclear Regulatory Research, telephone: 301–415–1048; email: *Vance.Petrella@nrc.gov.* Both are staff of the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission, Washington, DC 20555–0001.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

I. Discussion

The NRC is issuing a new guide in the NRC's ''Regulatory Guide'' series. This series was developed to describe methods that are acceptable to the NRC staff for implementing specific parts of the agency's regulations, to explain techniques that the staff uses in evaluating specific issues or postulated events, and to describe information that the staff needs in its review of applications for permits and licenses.

The proposed RG 1.261 was issued with a temporary identification of Draft Regulatory Guide (DG)–1439 (ADAMS Accession No. ML24295A187). The NRC is issuing RG 1.261 to describe an approach that the NRC staff finds acceptable for using a technology-inclusive risk-informed change evaluation process for changes to a facility described in final safety analysis reports (as updated). Subject to the clarifications in Section C of the RG, this RG endorses the methodology described in NEI 22–05, Revision 0 (ADAMS Accession No. ML24032A237) as an acceptable alternative to using the criteria in section 50.59 of title 10 of the *Code of Federal Regulations* (10 CFR), ''Changes, tests, and experiments.'' Plants licensed using the methodology in NEI 18–04, Revision 1, ''Risk-Informed Performance-Based Technology Inclusive Guidance for Non-Light Water Reactor Licensing Basis Development'' (ADAMS Accession No. ML19241A472), and NEI 21–07, Revision 1, ''Technology Inclusive Guidance for Non-Light Water Reactors, Safety Analysis Report Content for Applicants Using the NEI 18–04 Methodology'' (ADAMS Accession No. ML22060A190), will have a licensing basis that is derived from a probabilistic risk assessment to a greater extent than if those plants were licensed under the existing regulatory frameworks in 10 CFR part 50, ''Domestic Licensing of Production and Utilization Facilities,'' and 10 CFR part 52, ''Licenses, Certifications, and Approvals for Nuclear Power Plants.'' Therefore, the criteria in 10 CFR 50.59, which were developed to reflect a licensing basis developed under the 10 CFR parts 50 and 52 frameworks, may not readily apply to those plants. Consequently, RG 1.261 addresses an area of regulation where special circumstances may warrant departure from some, or parts of some, regulations, such as 10 CFR 50.59. Ultimately, the licensee is responsible for preparing requests for such exemptions and related proposed license conditions to support this alternative.

II. Additional Information

The NRC published a notice of the availability of DG–1439 in the **Federal Register** on August 8, 2025 (90 FR 38516) for a 30-day public comment period. The public comment period closed on September 8, 2025. Public comments on DG–1439 and the NRC staff responses to the public comments are available in ADAMS under Accession No. ML26051A105.

III. Congressional Review Act

This RG is a rule as defined in the Congressional Review Act (5 U.S.C. 801–808). However, the Office of Management and Budget has not found it to be a major rule as defined in the Congressional Review Act.

IV. Backfitting, Forward Fitting, and Issue Finality

Licensees generally are not required to comply with the guidance in RG 1.261. If the NRC proposes to use this RG in an action that would constitute backfitting, as that term is defined in 10 CFR 50.109, ''Backfitting,'' and as described in NRC Management Directive 8.4, ''Management of Backfitting, Forward Fitting, Issue Finality, and Information Requests''; affect the issue finality of an approval issued under 10 CFR part 52; or constitute forward fitting, as that term is defined in Management Directive (MD) 8.4, then the NRC staff will apply the applicable policy in MD 8.4 to justify the action. If a licensee believes that the NRC is using this RG in a manner inconsistent with the discussion in its Implementation section, then the licensee may inform the NRC staff in accordance with MD 8.4.

V. Submitting Suggestions for Improvement of Regulatory Guides

A member of the public may, at any time, submit suggestions to the NRC for improvement of existing RGs or for the development of new RGs. Suggestions can be submitted on the NRC's public website at *https://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/doc-collections/reg-guides/contactus.html.* Suggestions will be considered in future updates and enhancements to the ''Regulatory Guide'' series.

VI. Executive Order (E.O.) 12866

The Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs determined that RG 1.261 is not a significant regulatory action under E.O. 12866.

Authority: 42 U.S.C. 2011 *et seq.*

Dated: June 8, 2026.

For the Nuclear Regulatory Commission.

James Steckel,

Acting Chief, Regulatory Guide and Programs Management Branch, Division of Engineering, Office of Nuclear Regulatory Research.

[FR Doc. 2026–11694 Filed 6–10–26; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 7590–01–P