

September 17, 2025

Energy

Deadlines For Trump's Nuclear Renaissance Executive Orders



Issue

As previously [noted](#) by ACG Analytics, in May, President Trump issued 4 Executive Orders (EOs) aimed at jumpstarting the U.S. nuclear energy sector. The directives outline a Federal strategy that seeks to quadruple domestic nuclear generating capacity by 2050 and reduce reliance on foreign uranium as part of a broader push for U.S. energy independence.



Impact

The May 23rd nuclear energy-related Executive Orders are as follows:

- “[Reinvigorating the Nuclear Industrial Base](#);”
- “[Reforming Nuclear Reactor Testing at the Department of Energy](#);”
- “[Ordering the Reform of the Nuclear Regulatory Commission](#),” and
- “[Deploying Advanced Nuclear Reactor Technologies for National Security](#).”



Next Steps

The EOs set tight deadlines for action. ACG Analytics details notable agency and departmental timelines as mandated by President Trump in the nuclear energy EOs.

Passed

By June 22nd, 2025:

- The Energy Secretary alongside the Attorney General and Federal Trade Commission (FTC) Chairman shall employ *The Defense Production Act* (DPA) to secure voluntary agreements with domestic nuclear energy companies.

By June 30th, 2025:

- The Energy Secretary shall, in coordination with the Council on Environmental Quality (CEQ) Chair, work to reform with applicable law Department of Energy (DOE) rules governing compliance with *The National Environmental Policy Act* (NEPA).

By July 22nd, 2025:

- The Energy Secretary shall issue guidance concerning what constitutes as a qualified nuclear test reactor.

By August 21st, 2025:

- The Energy Secretary alongside the War Secretary shall update the DOE excess uranium management policy in alignment with national security needs including the modernization of the U.S. nuclear weapons stockpile.
- The Energy Secretary shall review and revise regulations, guidance, and procedures of the DOE, the National Laboratories, and other DOE entities so that the review, approval, and deployment of advanced nuclear reactors can be expedited and so that operation of these reactors at DOE owned or controlled facilities may occur within 2 years of a substantially complete application.
- The Energy Secretary shall assign 1 or more U.S. DOE owned or controlled sites as a location for the use and deployment of advanced nuclear reactor technologies. Operation of an advanced nuclear reactor at the 1st site is aimed for November 23rd, 2027, or prior.
- The Energy Secretary shall determine any useful uranium and plutonium material within DOE inventories that may be recycled or processed into nuclear fuel for U.S. reactors.
- The Office of Science and Technology Policy (OSTP) Director and the Assistant to the President for Economic Policy as well as the Treasury Secretary shall issue respective strategies aimed at promoting American nuclear exports. These strategies will be informed through consultation with other Executive officials and agency heads and will leverage the U.S. International Development Finance Corporation (DFC), U.S. Trade and Development Agency (USTDA), and Export-Import (EXIM) Bank of the United States.
- The Secretary of State or his designee shall coordinate with the Secretaries of Commerce and Energy, OSTP Director, and Assistant to the President for Economic Policy to institute a program aimed at improving the competitiveness of America's nuclear investors, suppliers, and lenders as they compete for global nuclear projects.

Upcoming

By September 20th, 2025:

- The Energy Secretary shall, in consultation with the Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) Chair and the Office of Management & Budget (OMB) Director, create a plan for expanding domestic uranium conversation capacity and enrichment capabilities to meet the projected needs of civilian and defense reactors for low enriched uranium (LEU), high enriched uranium (HEU), and high assay, low enriched uranium (HALEU).
- The Labor and Education Secretaries should work to increase participation in nuclear energy-related Registered Apprenticeships and Career and Technical Education programs by leveraging apprenticeship intermediary contracts, applicable discretionary funding, and grant priorities, with an emphasis on state development.
- All executive departments and agencies which provide education grants shall consider nuclear engineering and other nuclear energy-related careers as priority areas for investment, in alignment with applicable laws.
- The Energy Secretary shall increase access to research and development (R&D) infrastructure, workforce, and expertise at the DOE National Laboratories for university students studying nuclear energy or nuclear engineering related fields as well as for Department of War (DOW) personnel working in nuclear energy affiliated programs.

By November 19th, 2025:

- The Energy Secretary shall, in coordination with the Small Business Administration (SBA) Administrator, put forward available funding via loans, grants, investment capital, funding opportunities, and other Federal avenues to go towards qualified advanced nuclear technologies.

By January 18th, 2026:

- The Energy Secretary shall, in coordination with the War Secretary, Transportation Secretary, and OMB Director, submit to the President through the National Energy Dominance Council (NEDC) Chair and OSTP Director an in-depth report containing national policy recommendations; a statutory

review to determine potential legislative changes; an analysis of policy, budgetary, and legal considerations for transferring spent nuclear fuel from reactors to a government-owned, privately operated reprocessing and recycling facility; a re-evaluation of former and current nuclear reprocessing, separation, and storage facilities selected for decommission; and a program to take advantage of ways to utilize used and unused advanced nuclear fuels and advanced nuclear reactors. A full overview of the report's requested specifications may be found [here](#).

- The War Secretary shall, in coordination with the Energy Secretary, OMB Director, and U.S. military Secretaries, prepare and submit to the Assistant to the President for National Security Affairs a report containing recommendations for legislative proposals and regulatory actions concerning the distribution, operation, replacement, and removal of advanced nuclear reactors and spent nuclear fuel on military installations.

By February 23rd, 2026:

- The Nuclear Regulatory Commission shall, in coordination with its Department of Government Efficiency (DOGE) Team, the OMB, and other applicable departments or agencies, issue notice(s) of proposed rulemakings following an in-depth review and wholesale revision of NRC regulations and guidance documents. This review and revision will encompass NRC evaluation and approval deadlines; radiation limit guidelines; NEPA compliance; high-volume licensing for microreactors and modular reactors; expedited nuclear reactor approvals; and various other issues which may be viewed [here](#). The NRC is tasked with issuing final rules and guidance by November 23rd, 2026.

By July 4th, 2026:

- The Energy Secretary will launch a pilot program to construct and operate 3 non-commercial test reactors outside the national laboratory system, with the goal of achieving criticality by July 4th, 2026.

By September 30th, 2028:

- The War Secretary alongside the Army Secretary shall begin the operation of a nuclear reactor overseen by the U.S. Army at a domestic military base or installation.

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