



Department
for Environment
Food & Rural Affairs

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Date: 6 October 2025

Dear Consultee

Consultation on the Nuclear Industry Association's application for Regulatory Justification of the 'Rolls-Royce SMR' designed by Rolls-Royce SMR Limited

We are seeking your views on an application for a regulatory justification decision on the 'Rolls-Royce SMR' (small modular reactor). This reactor is designed by Rolls-Royce SMR Limited and the application was made by the Nuclear Industry Association (NIA), the representative body for the civil nuclear industry in the UK.

Justification is an early regulatory step that must be satisfied before a new type of nuclear reactor can be deployed in the UK. Justification determines the class or type of practice the proposed practice belongs to and provides a high-level assessment of whether that class or type of practice gives an overall benefit to society.

To inform the preparation of a draft decision document by Defra, we are seeking views on:

- whether the proposed practice belongs to a new, or to an existing class or type of practice
- whether the proposed practice is a suitably defined class or type of practice for a justification decision
- whether the information in the application and supplementary information is suitable for Defra to make an appropriate assessment of the balance of benefits and detriments of the proposed practice

This consultation is not concerned with wider nuclear energy policy including the siting of nuclear reactors.

This consultation will run for 8 weeks. The consultation opened on 6 October 2025 and will close on 1 December 2025.

The following documents may be found on Citizen Space:

<https://consult.defra.gov.uk/nuclear-justification/nuclear-rolls-royce-smr>



- Consultation document (a translation in Welsh is also on Citizen Space)
- Consultation letter (a translation in Welsh is also on Citizen Space)
- Nuclear Industry Association Rolls-Royce SMR Regulatory Justification application including correspondence between Defra and the applicant in relation to the request for further information
- Consultations privacy notice (a translation in Welsh is also on Citizen Space)

We welcome your views and comments. If you wish to obtain a copy of this consultation, please contact RRSMRAPPLICATION@defra.gov.uk.

Responses

To submit your consultation response please complete the consultation questionnaire provided through Citizen Space (Citizen Space is an online consultation tool).

This consultation will remain open for 8 weeks from 6 October 2025.

If you require a copy of the consultation, please contact us at RRSMRAPPLICATION@defra.gov.uk

Responses should be received by 1 December 2025.

Confidentiality and data protection

Please find the Consultations Privacy Notice uploaded alongside this consultation.

This consultation is being conducted in line with the Cabinet Office [Consultation Principles](#).

Representative groups are asked to give a summary of the people and organisations they represent and where relevant who else they have consulted in reaching their conclusions when they respond.

Information provided in response to this consultation may be published or disclosed in accordance with the access to information legislation. We respect your personal privacy when responding to access to information requests. We only share information when necessary to meet the statutory requirements of the Environmental Information Regulations 2004 and the Freedom of Information Act 2000.

Using and sharing your information

How we use your personal data is set out in the privacy notice for this consultation which can be found on Citizen Space.

If you have any comments or complaints about the consultation process, please email: consultation.coordinator@defra.gov.uk.

Thank you for your help in this matter. If you have any queries, please contact us at RRSMRAPPLICATION@defra.gov.uk.

Yours faithfully,

Nuclear Justification Team

Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs