



Safety Culture in the Reactor Oversight Process (ROP) and License Renewal Status

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What is Safety Culture?

- Definition of Safety Culture
 - “that assembly of characteristics and attitudes in organizations and individuals, which establishes that as an overriding priority, nuclear plant safety issues receive the attention warranted by their significance”
- Organizational Culture
 - shared reactions, habits, values, norms, beliefs, basic assumptions of an organization’s members
 - Safety culture is a subset of organizational culture

Why Safety Culture is Important

- Chernobyl Accident
 - Procedure non-adherence issues
 - Non-conservative decision making
 - Lack of clear authority
 - Poor training and understanding
 - Production (or testing) over safety
- Davis-Bessel Vessel Head Degradation
 - Inadequate nuclear safety focus
 - Inadequate implementation of the corrective action program
 - Inadequate analysis of safety implications
 - Inadequate procedure compliance

ROP Components of Safety Culture

- Human Performance
 - Decision-making, resources, work control, and work practices
- Problem Identification and Resolution
 - Corrective action program, operating experience, and self/independent assessments
- Safety Conscious Work Environment
 - Environment for raising safety concerns and preventing/detecting/mitigating perceptions of retaliation
- Other
 - Accountability, continuous learning environment, organizational change management, and safety policies

Feedback from Stakeholders

- Safety Culture is of utmost importance to the NRC
- We continue to use lessons learned to improve our oversight process
- We will consider stakeholder feedback to determine if the ROP needs to be changed to be consistent with the Final Safety Culture Policy Statement

Power Reactor License Renewal

- **Granted Renewals**
 - 54 units; 31 sites
- **Currently Under Review**
 - 18 units; 12 sites
- **Expected Applications (next 6 months)**
 - Salem 1,2 September 2009
 - Hope Creek September 2009
 - STARS Plant October – December 2009
 - Columbia January 2010



Applications Under Review

Pilgrim

Susquehanna

Beaver Valley

Prairie Island

Cooper

Palo Verde

Vermont Yankee

Indian Point

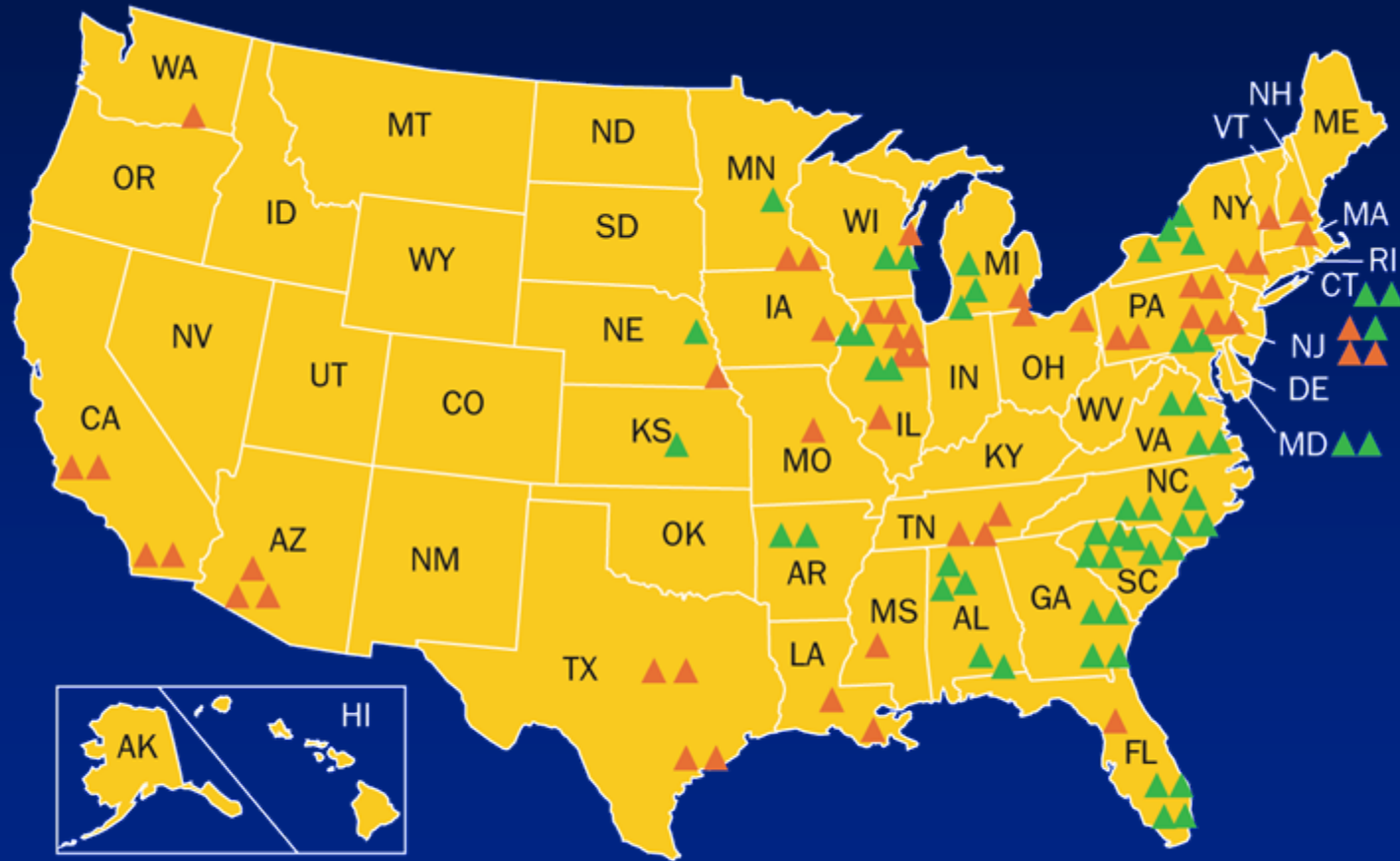
Three Mile Island

Kewaunee

Duane Arnold

Crystal River

Renewed Power Reactors



Licensed to Operate (104)

▲ License Renewal Granted

As of July 2009

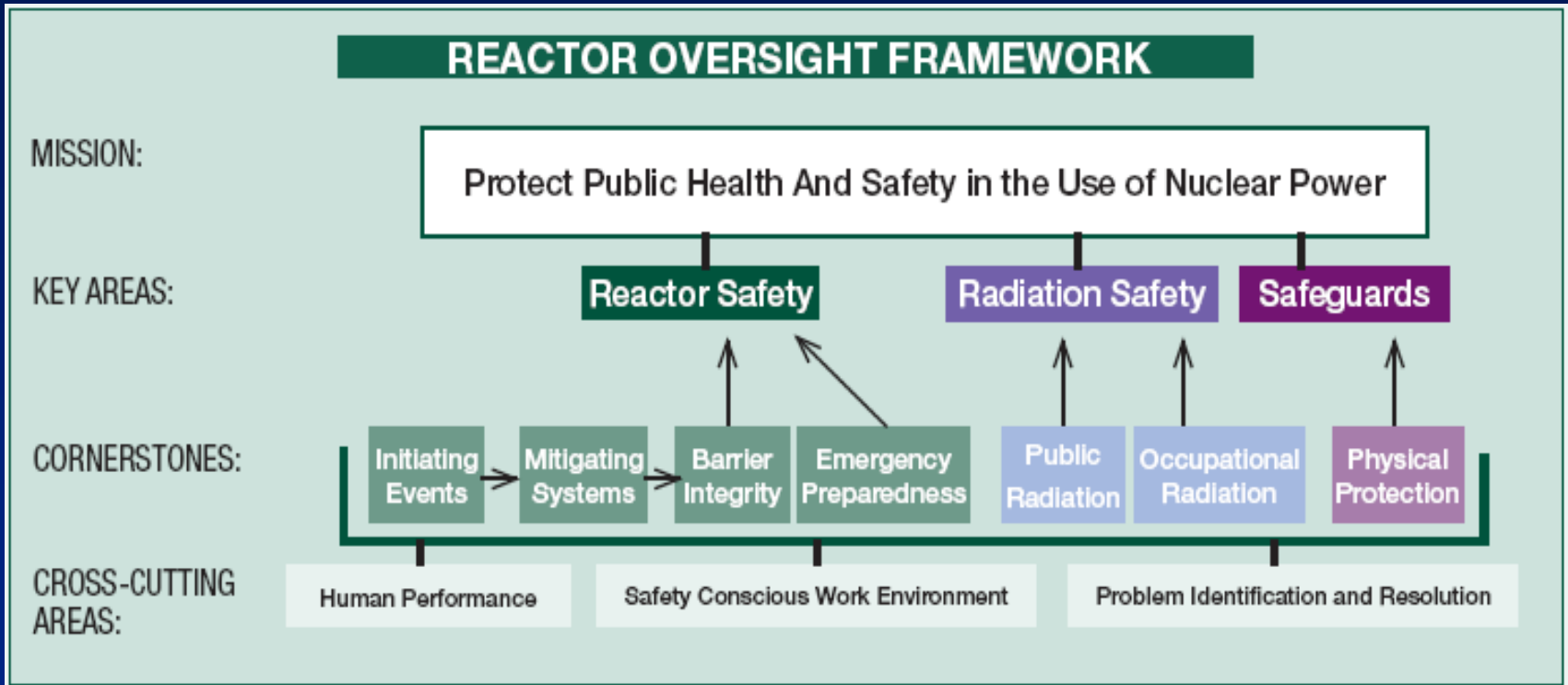


License Renewal Issues – Aging of Components

- Examples
 - Metal Fatigue Analysis
 - Inaccessible Medium Voltage Cables
 - Containment Liner Degradation
 - Neutron Absorber Degradation

Back Up Slides

The Reactor Oversight Process (ROP)



Safety Culture in the ROP

- NRC Inspection
 - Inspection findings involve performance deficiencies
 - Performance deficiencies have a root cause
 - Root causes often involve an aspect of organizational culture
 - Multiple performance deficiencies involving the same aspect of organizational culture can result in increased NRC inspection
- Safety Culture Assessments
 - Comprehensive evaluation
 - Interviews, surveys, field observations
 - Performed by NRC and licensees, and independent contractors
 - Levels of independence vary with performance

Applications Under Review

- Pilgrim In hearing process
- Vermont Yankee In hearing process
- Susquehanna Final SER in August 2009
- Indian Point In hearing process; Final SER in August 2009
- Beaver Valley Renewed license in September 2009
- Three Mile Island Renewed license in November 2009
- Prairie Island In hearing; Final SER in October 2009
- Kewaunee Preliminary SER in March 2010
- Cooper Preliminary SER in March 2010
- Duane Arnold Preliminary SER in March 2010
- Palo Verde Preliminary SER in July 2010
- Crystal River Preliminary SER in April 2010