



# **NRC Safety Culture Definition and Characteristics**

## Draft Definition of Safety Culture

- That assembly of characteristics, attitudes, and behaviors in organizations and individuals which establishes that as an overriding priority, nuclear safety and security issues receive the attention warranted by their significance.

## Draft Safety Culture Characteristics

- Individuals demonstrate ownership and personal responsibility for maintaining safety and security in their day-to-day work activities;
- Processes for planning and controlling work activities are implemented such that safety and security are maintained;

## Draft Safety Culture Characteristics

- A work environment exists in which personnel feel free to raise safety and security concerns without fear of retaliation;
- Nuclear safety and security issues are promptly and thoroughly identified, evaluated, and resolved, commensurate with their significance;

## Draft Safety Culture Characteristics

- Resources are available to ensure that safety and security are maintained;
- Decision-making processes protect safety and security;
- Roles and responsibilities for maintaining safety and security are clearly defined;
- Opportunities to improve safety and security are sought out and implemented.

## What works so far:

- Draft definition and characteristics do not require a large, stable organization to be applicable
- May apply across the range of contexts in which NRC-regulated activities are performed
- Appropriate for regulatory perspective (adequate assurance vs. excellence)

## What may not work:

- May not be as generally applicable as we hope
- May be incomplete (e.g., do not directly refer to either leadership or supervision)
- May not be sufficiently distinct (i.e., are they overlapping?)