

THRESHOLD FOR LICENSE AMENDMENTS

December 10, 2002

AGENDA

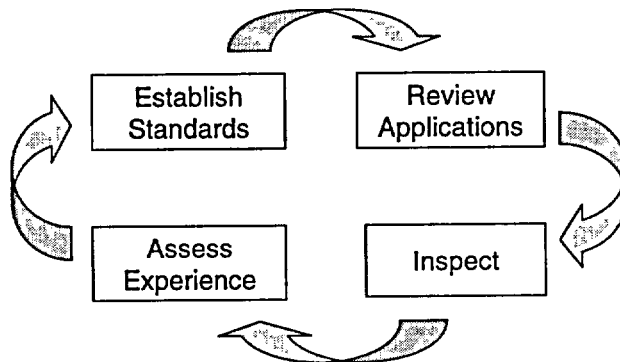
- Introduction and Purpose of Meeting
- NRC Staff Presentation
- NEI Presentation
- Discussion
- Conclusion

STAFF PRESENTATION

- Role of the Regulator [establish/revise standards]
- Plant-specific change control processes
- The Perry decision
- License amendment threshold
- Examples

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ROLE OF THE REGULATOR



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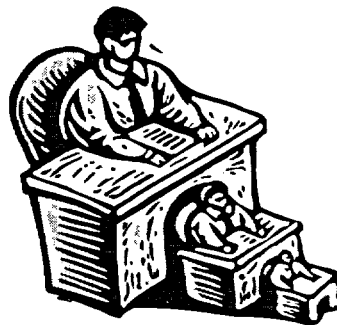
ESTABLISH RULES AND STANDARDS

- Rule requirements can be specific or a general performance standard
- New rules may add requirements (constrain authority) or result in different operating authority
- General rules allow flexibility for implementation, but also call for NRC review of specifics to determine acceptability

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HIERARCHY

- Legislation
- Rulemaking
- Guides & Standards
- License Amendments
- Plant Procedures



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CHANGE CONTROL

- Extent of NRC involvement depends upon what is being changed (license amendment, reports, records)
- Approval requirements can be predetermined (TS, Tier 2*)
- Some thresholds are defined (decrease in effectiveness, no more than minimal)

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10 CFR 50.59

- Permits licensees to make changes to facility without NRC approval under specified conditions
- TS Changes require amendment
- Changes meeting evaluation criteria require amendment

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THE PERRY DECISION

(CLI 96-13)

- Capsule withdrawal schedule change (Appendix H requires approval)
- Commission decided amendment required if change is beyond existing license authority
- Schedule conforming to ASTM standard is not an amendment (objective, pre-established criteria)

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LICENSE AMENDMENT THRESHOLD

Characteristics of a change that requires a license amendment:

- Alter terms of license (license conditions, TS and orders)
- Involve potentially greater operating authority (e.g., §50.59 conditions)
- Change requires plant-specific reasonable assurance finding (where objective prescribed criteria do not exist)

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EXAMPLES

- RIS 2002-05 BWR Vessel Integrated Surveillance Program
- Categorization rule §50.69
- Steam Generator Generic License Change Package (GLCP)
- Fire Protection rule - NFPA-805