

RIC 2004

Licensing Issues – Session W6

Licensing-Process Improvement

Today → Next Year → Next 3 years

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Objective

- Improve licensing-process stability and predictability through:
 - ↑ effectiveness & efficiency
 - ↑ efforts to identify & prioritize process issues
 - ↑ coordination within the licensing community
 - ↑ public communications

Key Factors

- Today's experience becomes tomorrow's process
- Continual change is inevitable
- Need licensing stability & predictability while managing change



Licensing Change Management

- Use the existing Licensing Community to:
 - Establish baseline principles
 - Identify emerging licensing-process issues
 - Establish priorities
 - Standardize



Licensing Community

- Standardizing change management rests with the Licensing Community

•Licensees	•NSSS vendors	•NRC	•Public
•Owners Groups	•Architect/Engineers	•NEI	•EPRI
•Special Issue Groups	•Consultants	•INPO	
•Standards organizations	•Regional Utility Groups		



Establish Baseline Principles

- Use the NRC's Principles of Good Regulation, which include:
 - Independence (licensing community of independent contributors)
 - Open (public meetings; PDR; ADAMS)
 - Efficient (standardize; reduce duplication & overlap)
 - Clear (written problem statements; white papers)
 - Reliable (peer review)



Identify Emerging Licensing-Process Issues

- Problem Statement
 - If you can't write it down, you don't have a problem.
- Draft “white paper”
 - Mutual understanding
 - Industry and NRC peer review
- Timely, public resolution
- Final “white paper” to document resolution and request regulatory “endorsement”

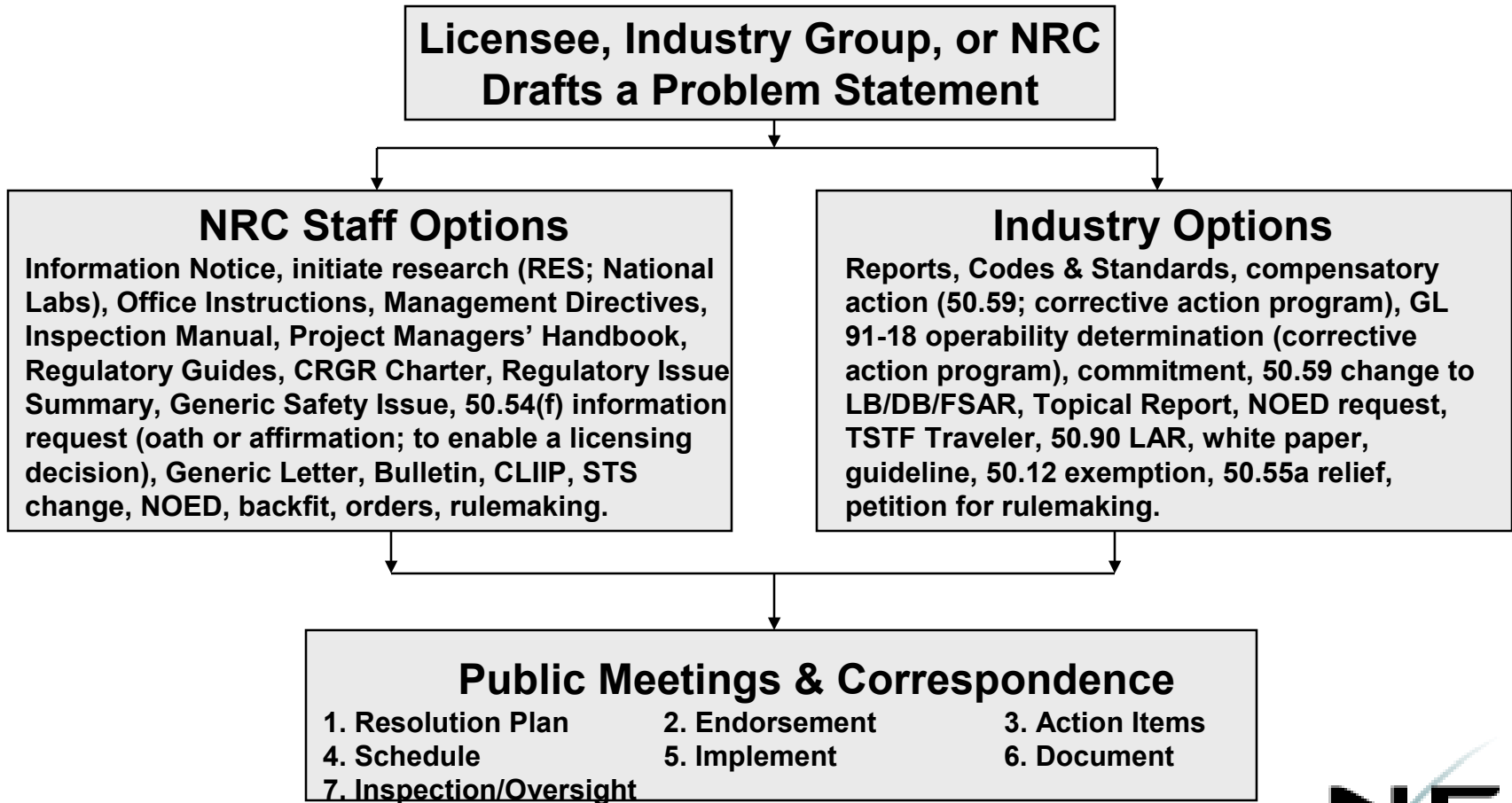
Establish Priorities

- Identify important factors
 - cost factors
 - value added
 - likelihood of regulatory success
 - timing
- Use a consistent methodology
- Continual feedback & refinement

Standardize

- Work within the existing licensing framework
- Avoid duplication & overlap
- Format templates
 - License Amendment Requests (LARs)
 - Relief Requests (10 CFR 50.55a)

Simplified Flow Chart



Next Steps

- Two pilot white papers:
 - “Use of the Generic Letter 91-18 Process and Alternative Source Terms in the Context of Control Room Habitability,” 10/22/03
 - “ISA S67.04 Methods for Determining Trip Setpoints and Allowable Values for Safety-Related Instrumentation,” 12/5/03
- Comments via:
 - Industry WebBoard (<http://webboard.nei.org/~LATF>)
 - NRC/NEI Licensing Action Task Force steering group meetings
 - NRC/NEI correspondence
 - Annual Licensing Forum