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The U.S. NRC needs to go a very long way to comply with the White House initiative on open government.

First, ADAMS access is abysmal. Even if documents are there, unless one is working at NRC Head Quarters, documents cannot be easily accessed with an adequate indexing system to make locating desired documents feasible. I was lucky enough to get a consultant at NRC to configure my MAC to have access. That lasted about two weeks. Then it stopped and the expert told me that there were problems and the entire system was going to be changed. Fat lot of good that does for anyone trying to meaningfully participate in an NRC proceeding or to intervene. Without access from outside to a decent, indexed system for document location and retrieval, anything else the agency does is just window-dressing.

Second, the agency needs to review all past determinations concerning which documents should be public and get them on-line and available. I have complained numerous times to persons working at the highest levels of the NRC and the IG concerning the unavailability of certain document that should not have been classified "non public" -- e.g., a transcript of a telephone conference in the Yankee Rowe license termination case, annual reports of the Homestake Mining company and dozens of related documents (which were not released to the public until several years later when the licensee's own attorney's FOIAed them so they would not have to undergo the expense of copying them when providing them in a due diligence process). This kind of shoddy classification of documents is untenable and will not be eliminated until there is a top to bottom review of the classification process AND a complete review of all documents currently classified as "non-public".

Third, all baseline data, past and current licensing basis data, licensing amendment, violations, corrective actions, exemption determinations, and any determinations not to make such data, documents, reports and materials available to the public should be available on-line at a single mouse click in a location that is accessible and easily navigated by a 6th grader.

Finally, there should be a stakeholder process conducted annually that includes not just the usual beltway crowd, but critics of the NRC from around the U.S., who provide a

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review of how well the agency is doing in its alleged quest to become "transparent."  
Transparency is easy when there is nothing to see because the important material cannot be located and viewed or is withheld from public view. Becoming publicly transparent and actually making information and processes both visible and available to participate in, that is another matter entirely--and one that the NRC has a long, long way to go in achieving.