NEI Government Affairs Summit

NRC Commissioner William C. Ostendorff September 24, 2010



Protecting People and the Environment

Agenda



- Introduction
- Personal background
- General observations
- Regulatory philosophy
- Focus areas
- Government affairs
- Questions and comments

Personal background



3







THE NATIONAL ACADEMIES

Advisers to the Nation on Science, Engineering, and Medicine

General observations



- Significant progress since Three Mile Island
- Good performance compared to other industrial sectors
- Focus on safety
- Robust security
- Highly-trained and skilled workforce

Regulatory philosophy (1)



Reliability

5

NRC principles of good regulation...

Openness

Efficiency

Clarity

Independence



Principles of Good Regulation

The NRC adheres to the following Principles of Good Regulation

- Independence: Nothing to the highest possible tandards of ethical performance and professionalism should influence regulation. However, independence does not imply istation. All writeholds facts and epinions must be sought openly from independence does not imply istation. All writeholds facts and epinions and be sought openly from independence does not imply istation. All writeholds and and all and all and all and and and and the considered. Final decisions must be based on objective, whisted assessments of all information, and must be documented with reasons sequicity statid.
- Openness: Nuclear regulation is the public's business, and it must be transacted publicly and candidly. The public must be informed about and have the opportunity to participate in the regulatory processes as required by law. Open channels of communication must be maintained with Congress, other povernment agacrise, licensees, and the public, as well as with the international nuclear commune
- Efficiency: The American taxpaye, the rate-paying consume: and licenses are all entitled to the best possible management and administration of regulatory activities. The highest technical and managerial competences is required, and must be a constant spectry goal. NRC must establish mean to evaluate and continually upgrade its regulatory capabilities. Regulatory activities should be consistent with the degree of risk reduction they active. When several effective alternatives are available, the option which minimizes the use of resources should be adopted. Regulatory decisions should be made vibrat undow ofelor.
- Clarity: Regulations should be coherent, logical, and practical. There should be a clear nexus between regulations and agency goals and objectives whether explicitly or implicitly stated. Agency partions should be readily understood and easily applied.
- Reliability: Regulations should be based on the best available knowledge how research and operational experience. Systems interactions, includougical meta-initiane, and the diversity of licenses and regulatory activities must all be taken into account or but risks are maintimed at an acceptable jow low. Once setabilished, regulations about the perceivable to the reliable and nor unjustifiable jo a state of transmiss. Regulatory actions should always be fully consistent with written regulations and theadd be promptly, fairly, and decively administent do a so the distribution to the constraint processor.



Regulatory philosophy (2)



Getting out in the field



Braidwood nuclear power plant, May 2010

Valuable input for policy decision making:

- New reactors licensing
- Technical issue resolution (e.g., GSI-191, digital I&C)

6

- Security (e.g., worker fatigue, cyber)
- Waste management

Regulatory philosophy (3)



Open door policy...

With all stakeholders

Open channels of communication

Focus areas (1)



Keeping our eyes on the ball...

- Avoiding complacency
- Continuous improvement
- Safety culture



Focus areas (2)



New reactors

• Combined License (COL) reviews

Lessons learned

- Commission mandatory hearing process
 - Scope and timing
- Regulatory framework for new technologies
 - Digital instrumentation & control systems
 - Small modular reactors

Focus areas (3)



10

External communication and outreach



- Shared responsibility of regulator and industry
- Promote understanding of risks and the bases for regulatory activities
- Proactive engagement

Risk communication (1)



What the public sees...

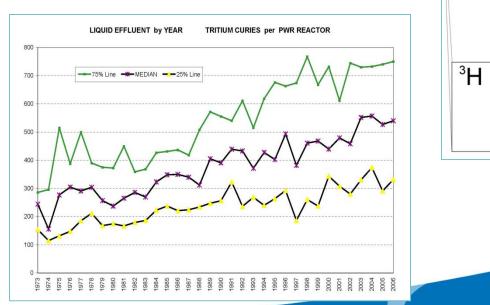


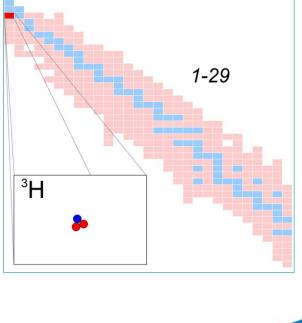
Risk communication (2)



How do we best communicate?

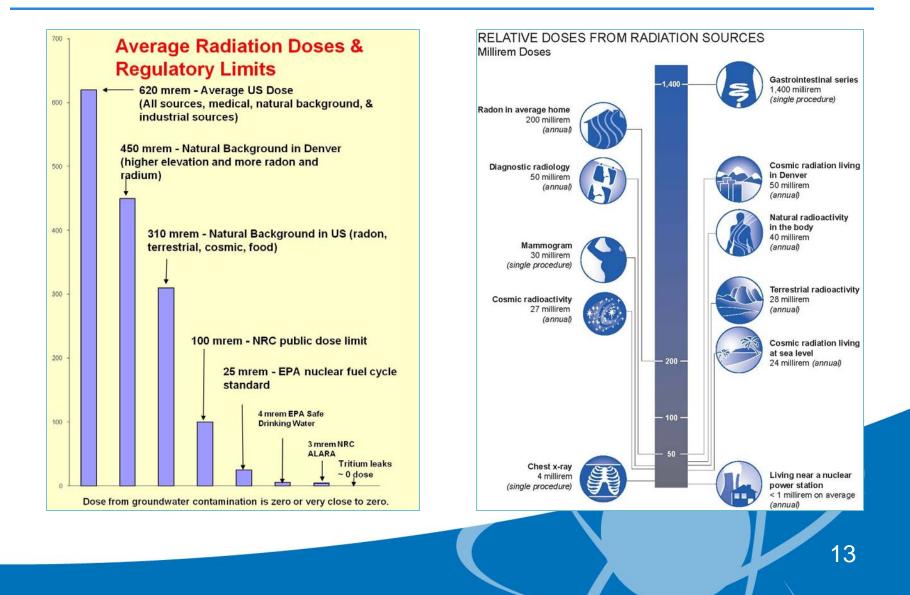
 ${}_{5}B^{10} + {}_{0}n^{1} \rightarrow [{}_{5}B^{11}]^{*} \rightarrow {}_{3}Li^{7} + {}_{2}He^{4}$ ${}_{5}B^{10} + {}_{0}n^{1} \rightarrow [{}_{5}B^{11}]^{*} \rightarrow {}_{1}H^{3} + 2({}_{2}He^{4})$





Risk communication (3)





4

Government affairs (1)

- Provide constructive feedback on the regulatory process
- Communicate early and effectively with your stakeholders
- Promote good cooperation internal and external to the nuclear industry



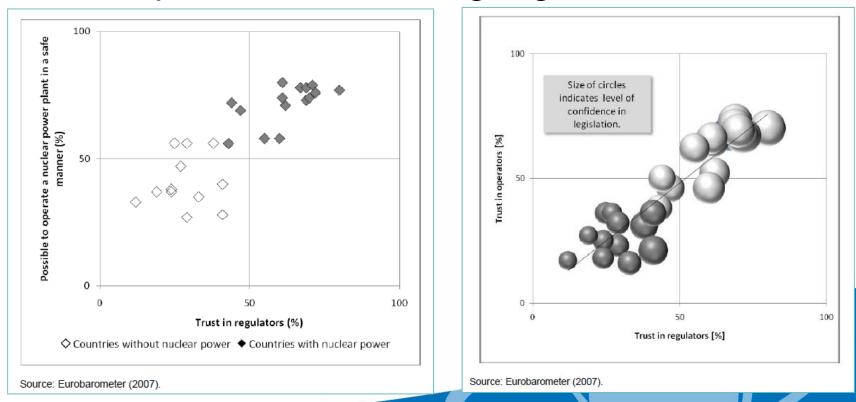


Government affairs (2)



Key message...

The importance of a strong regulator







Questions Comments Discussion

