



RTR Oversight Inspections and Operator Licensing

Johnny Eads

Patrick Isaac

Phillip Young

Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission

Presentation Outline

- Medical and Operator Licensing Issues
- Significant Inspection Findings
- Tech Spec Required Reportability
- Stakeholder Feedback

FY12 RTR Inspection Schedule

Week of	Facility		Week of	Facility	
10/17/11	MURR	TAMU-Triga	04/30/12	NIST *	USGS
10/31/11	NIST		05/07/12	MIT	GE
11/28/11	Reed College *		05/21/12	Lowell	AFRRI
12/12/11	MIT #	UC-Irvine	06/04/12	Aerotest *	Penn St
01/09/12	Oregon St		06/11/12	Purdue *	Dow
01/23/12	Aerotest #		07/09/12	U. Utah *	Idaho St
01/30/12	U. New Mexico		07/23/12	Kansas St	
02/06/12	UC-Davis	NC State	07/30/12	Washington St *	
02/20/12	NIST #		08/06/12	UC-Davis *	
02/27/12	U. Maryland	TAMU-AGN *	08/13/12	Rolla *	
03/05/11	MIT		08/27/12	MIT *	
03/19/12	Rhode Island		09/17/12	Ohio St *	
04/02/12	MURR *	Florida	09/24/12	U. Texas	
04/23/12	Wisconsin *				

* Security Inspection
Non-routine Inspection

FY12 RTR Examination Schedule

Week of	Facility	Candidates	Week of	Facility	Candidates
10/10/11	MIT	2 RO / 1 SROU	03/26/12	Kansas St	3 RO
10/17/11	Rolla	6 RO / 4 SRO	03/31/12	U. Wisconsin	8 RO
10/24/11	TAMU-AGN	1 RO / 1 SROI	05/02/12	Reed College	15 RO / 7 SROU
11/14/11	TAMU-Triga	2 RO / 5 SRO	05/xx/12	AFRRI	1 SROI
11/15/11	Reed College	1 SROI / 2 SROU	07/xx/12	Dow	2 SROI
11/28/11	Kansas St	3 RO / 3 SRO	08/xx/12	RPI	2 SROI
12/xx/11	UC-Irvine	2 RO / 1 SRO	08/06/12	TAMU-AGN	1 RO / 1 SRO
12/12/11	RPI	4 SROI	08/20/12	U. Mass.-Lowell	3 RO / 5 SROU
01/xx/12	U. Texas	2 RO / 2 SRO	09/xx/12	MIT	4 RO / 5 SRO
01/30/12	MIT	3 SROU / 1 SROI	09/xx/12	Ohio	1-SROI

Tech Spec Reportability

- The TS reportable occurrence requirement states: “an observed inadequacy in the implementation of either administrative or procedural controls, such that the inadequacy has caused the existence or development of an **unsafe condition in connection with the operation of the reactor.**”

Tech Spec Reportability

- The phrase “**unsafe condition**” has been misinterpreted by some as meaning the reportable occurrence in this category only involves the reactor core safety.
- The staff’s position is that the term also applies to unsafe conditions involving radiological safety of workers.

Tech Spec Reportability

- As an example, an event which involved a radiation technician working in front of a failed open neutron beam port for 18 seconds due to inadequacies in administrative and procedural controls for access to the high radiation area.
- Even though the reactor core was not threatened, the NRC treats this event as “an unsafe condition in connection with the operation of the reactor” and is reportable

Tech Spec Reportability

- The phrase “***in connection with the operation of the reactor***” has been misinterpreted by some as meaning the reportable occurrence in this category only involves the reactor core and only when the reactor is actually operating.
- The staff’s position is that the term applies to all licensed activities at the facility whether the reactor is critical or not.

Tech Spec Reportability

- As an example, an event which involved a reactor operator receiving 25% of the annual dose limit in 15 seconds due to inadequacies in procedural controls for handling of an irradiated sample. At the time of the event, the reactor had been shutdown for 12 hours to allow the sample to be removed.
- Even though the reactor was not “operating” at the time the operator received the dose, the NRC treats this event as “in connection with the operation of the reactor” and is reportable

Stakeholder Feedback

- How can we improve our oversight program?
- If you were the regulator, what would you do differently for operator exams or for inspections?