

Extending the Safety-Focused Approach of 10 CFR 50.69 to New Plants

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NRC Public Meeting on Petition for 50.69 Rulemaking

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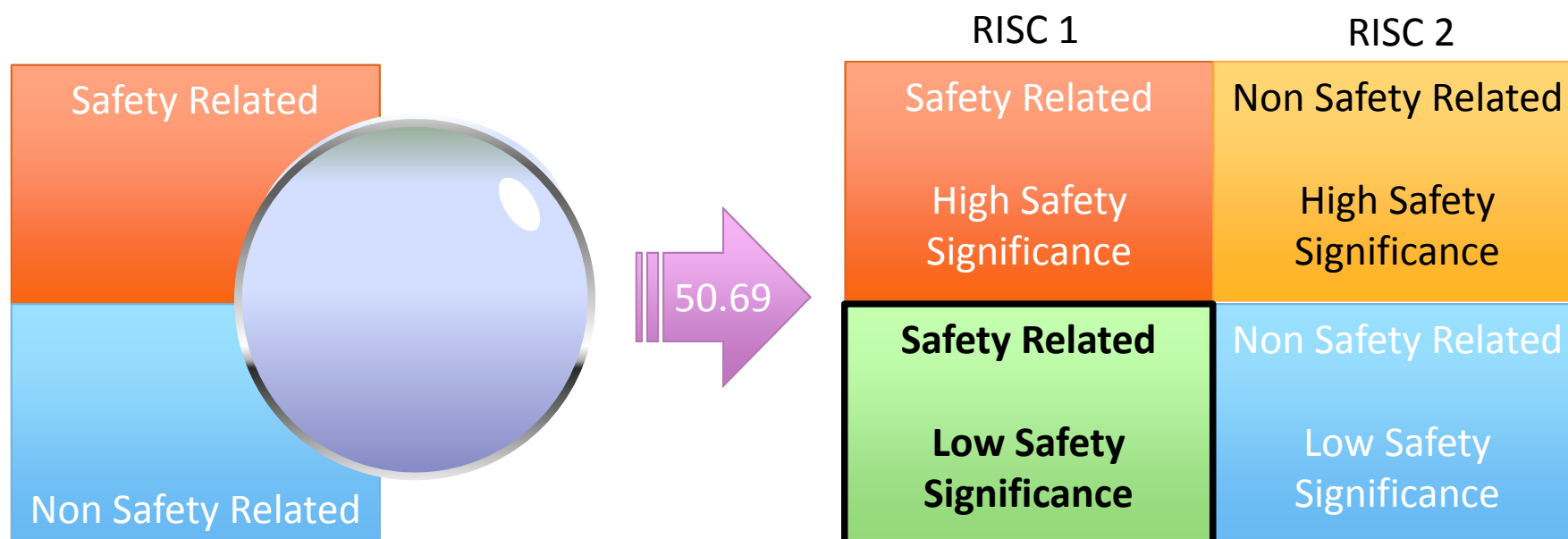
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Safety Significance of 10 CFR 50.69

- NRC had invested a large amount of time and effort to develop this important safety focused rule
 - Allows industry and NRC to focus on SSCs that are most important to safety

A Safety Focused Approach



Allows a more detailed look at safety significance

RISC 3

RISC 4

RISC = Risk Informed Safety Class

Uniform Applicability

- Supports the NRC's Mission to protect people and the environment
- The entire industry whether operating now or in the future should be able improve plant safety with this approach

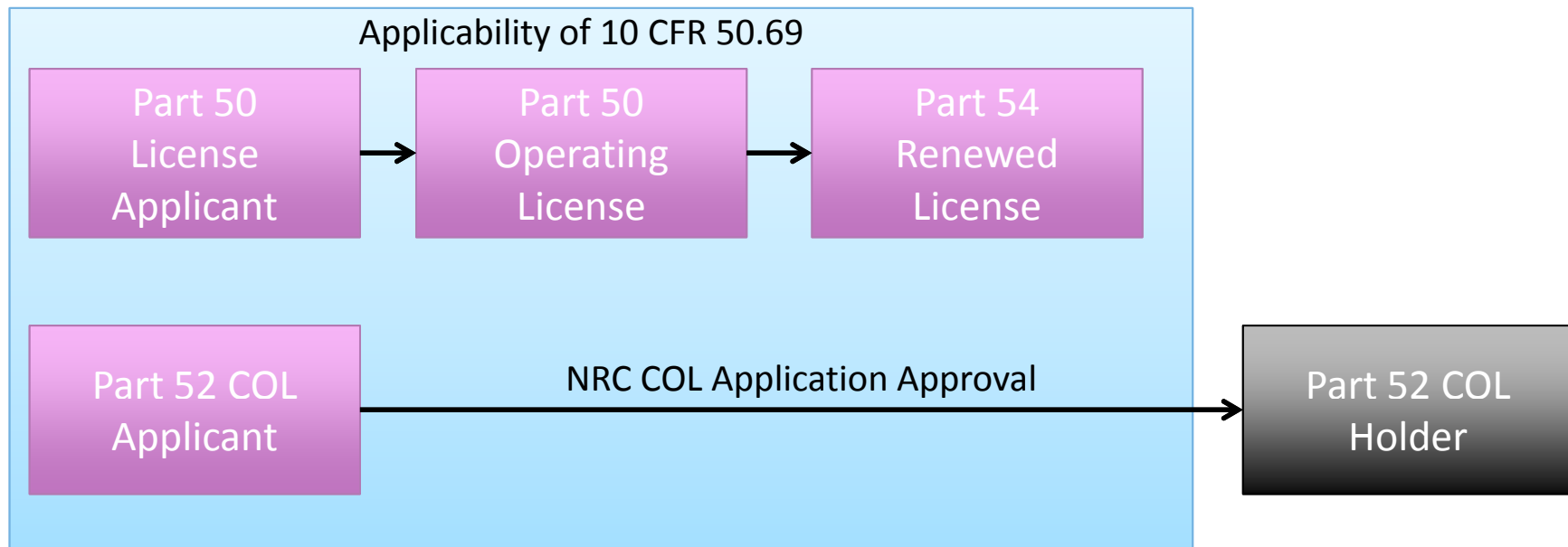
Current Applicability Language

b) Applicability and scope of risk-informed treatment of SSCs and submittal/approval process.

(1) A holder of a license to operate a light water reactor (LWR) nuclear power plant under this part; a holder of a renewed LWR license under part 54 of this chapter; an applicant for a construction permit or operating license under this part; or an applicant for a design approval, a combined license, or manufacturing license under part 52 of this chapter; may voluntarily comply with the requirements in this section as an alternative to compliance with the following requirements for RISC-3 and RISC-4 SSCs:

Issues with Current Applicability

The applicability language is silent and therefore does not extend the rule to apply to Combined License (COL) holders



Petition to Change Applicability

b) Applicability and scope of risk-informed treatment of SSCs and submittal/approval process.

(1) A holder of a license to operate a light water reactor (LWR) nuclear power plant under this part; a holder of a renewed LWR license under part 54 of this chapter; an applicant for or a holder of a construction permit or operating license under this part; or an applicant for or a holder of a design approval, a combined license, or manufacturing license under part 52 of this chapter; may voluntarily comply with the requirements in this section as an alternative to compliance with the following requirements for RISC-3 and RISC-4 SSCs:

The Importance of the Rule Change

Leverage Required Comprehensive PRA Models

PRA has already influenced the safer design of new plants

Rule Change will allow risk insights to further improve plant operations

Need for Uniformity in Regulation

The Same approaches to improve safety should be available to new plants

Need for Uniformity in Fleet Operation

Utilities need to be able run and make decisions for their fleets as consistently as possible

Momentum is growing

Interest in implementing is growing to implement the rule for operating plants and will continue with new plants

Increasing Delay will Decrease Safety Benefit

Waiting for plants to implement before changing the rule will cause loss of potential safety benefit

Conclusion

- Allows new plants flexibility to further improve safety in plant operations consistent with operating plants
- Simple Text Change to the Rule
- Any technical issues should be worked through as soon as possible to support new plants being constructed
 - No major technical issues have been identified to date