

National Organization of Test, Research,
and Training Reactors



License Amendments - Update

2015 TRTR Conference

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Research and Test Reactors Licensing

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Research and Test Reactor Amendments



- TRTR community expressed concern about delayed completion of license amendments
- NRC staff focusing to reduce time required for approval
- Amendments delayed for a period of time because of a legal issue that has since been resolved
- Three amendments issued in the last several months

Open Amendments



- Each amendment request has a project manager (PM) assigned to the review
- Prioritization based on licensee input on potential impact to operations:
 - Maintain operations
 - Maintain instructional, research, and service missions
 - Support scheduled upgrades
 - Focus on oldest amendments

Attributes of a Quality Amendment Application

- Title 10 of the *Code of Federal Regulations* section 50.90

“Whenever a...licensee...desires to amend the license ...an amendment must be filed with the Commission... fully describing the changes desired, and following as far as applicable, the form prescribed for the original application”

Attributes of a Quality Amendment Application

- Application contains all of the required details describing the request
- Timely response to RAIs
- RAI responses detailed and complete
- Contains safety basis to substantiate a defensible conclusion regarding a reasonable assurance of adequate protection

Going Forward



- It all comes down to the details
 - Reviewer cannot make any assumptions
 - All information for regulatory decision must be submitted in a manner consistent with the regulations
 - Frequent communication on complex issues, prior to amendment submittal (phase 0) and during the review, will compress the timeline
 - First of a kind engineering requires time for understanding the technology and associated safety consequences (risk)

Resources



- Interim Staff Guidance for NUREG-1537
Chapter 7, Parts 1 and 2
 - Covers digital instrumentation and control
 - Available for public comment
 - Being utilized for MIT amendment request safety evaluation report development

Resources



- NUREG-1537, Parts 1 and 2
- Regulatory Guides

License Amendments Update



Questions??