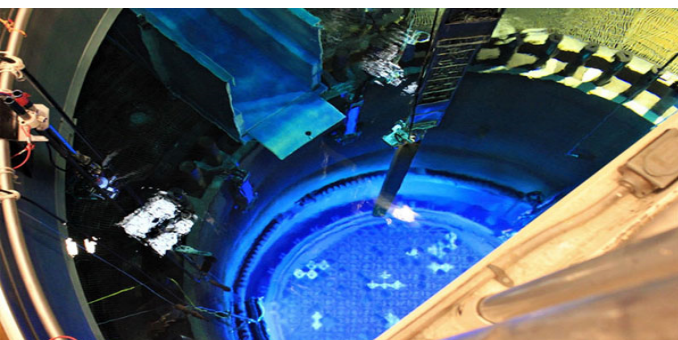




Low Safety Significance Issue Resolution

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Risk-informing isn't new, but it can be improved.



“Risk-informed approach:...a philosophy whereby risk insights are considered together with other factors...”

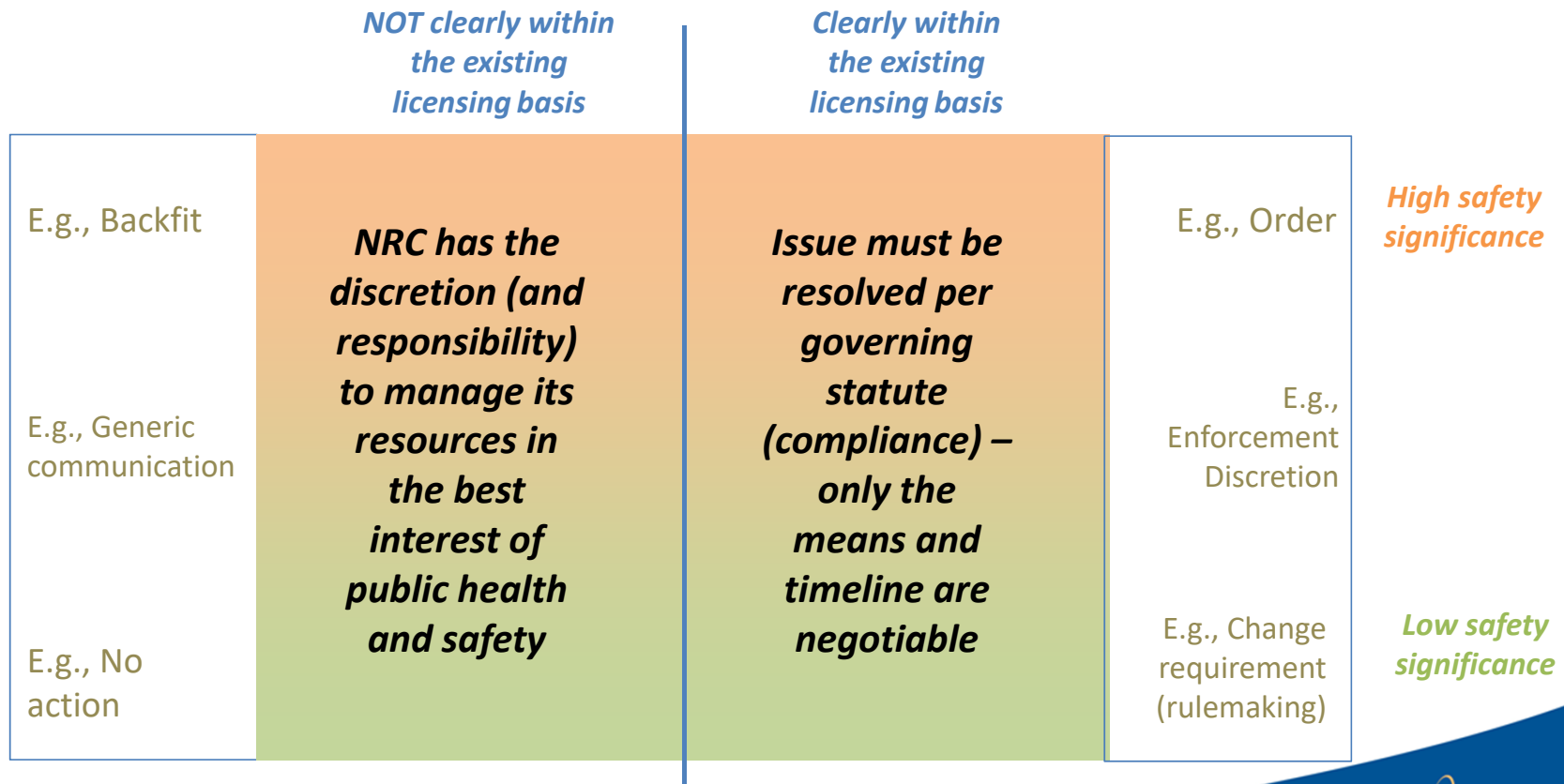
SRM-SECY-98-144

- Long-standing commitment to risk-informing:
 - Successful in a lot of areas
 - Existing processes that cover many contexts
- Working group stood up in November 2018:
 - Identify means to ***enhance*** NRC internal processes to mitigate situations where an inappropriate expenditure of resources and attention is applied to issues of low safety significance
 - Initial focus is on operating nuclear reactors; concepts are broader
 - Common culprits: dispute on licensing basis standing, safety significance

The exception, not the rule



To find your way home, you must know where you are on the map.



We are recommending specific changes, and further exploration.

[Preliminary, and subject to change...]

- Enhance existing processes to make licensing basis standing and safety significance more integral to resource management during issue exploration
 - Earlier litmus test in inspection issue handling
 - Explicit screening and evaluation in Technical Assistance Requests
 - Training for enhanced processes
- Exploring longer-term activities for more efficiently resolving low-safety compliance issues



Next steps

- Recommendations to NRR Office Director - Forthcoming
- Guidance document updates and review/issuance – Ongoing
- Staff training – Planned
 - Will need to sync with other ongoing changes (e.g., Commission direction on backfitting and forward-fitting)
- Exploration of longer-term initiatives – TBD
 - Will also need to sync with other activities (e.g., SECY-18-0060 recommendation on risk-informing 10 CFR 50.59)