



**ANS** Meetings

**IT'S GO TIME**

*Creating Momentum Toward  
Transformational Change*

# **New Approaches for Licensing a Safety-Related Digital I&C Upgrade**

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# What I'll Be Covering Today

➤ ***NRC Vision***

➤ ***Licensing Initiatives & Accomplishments***

➤ ***What's Next***

# NRC Vision for Digital I&C

“A clear regulatory structure with reduced regulatory uncertainty that enables the expanded safe use of digital I&C in commercial nuclear reactors while continuing to ensure safety and security.”

*From NRC SECY-19-0112*

# The Road We're On

Efficient  
Licensing

Today's Focus

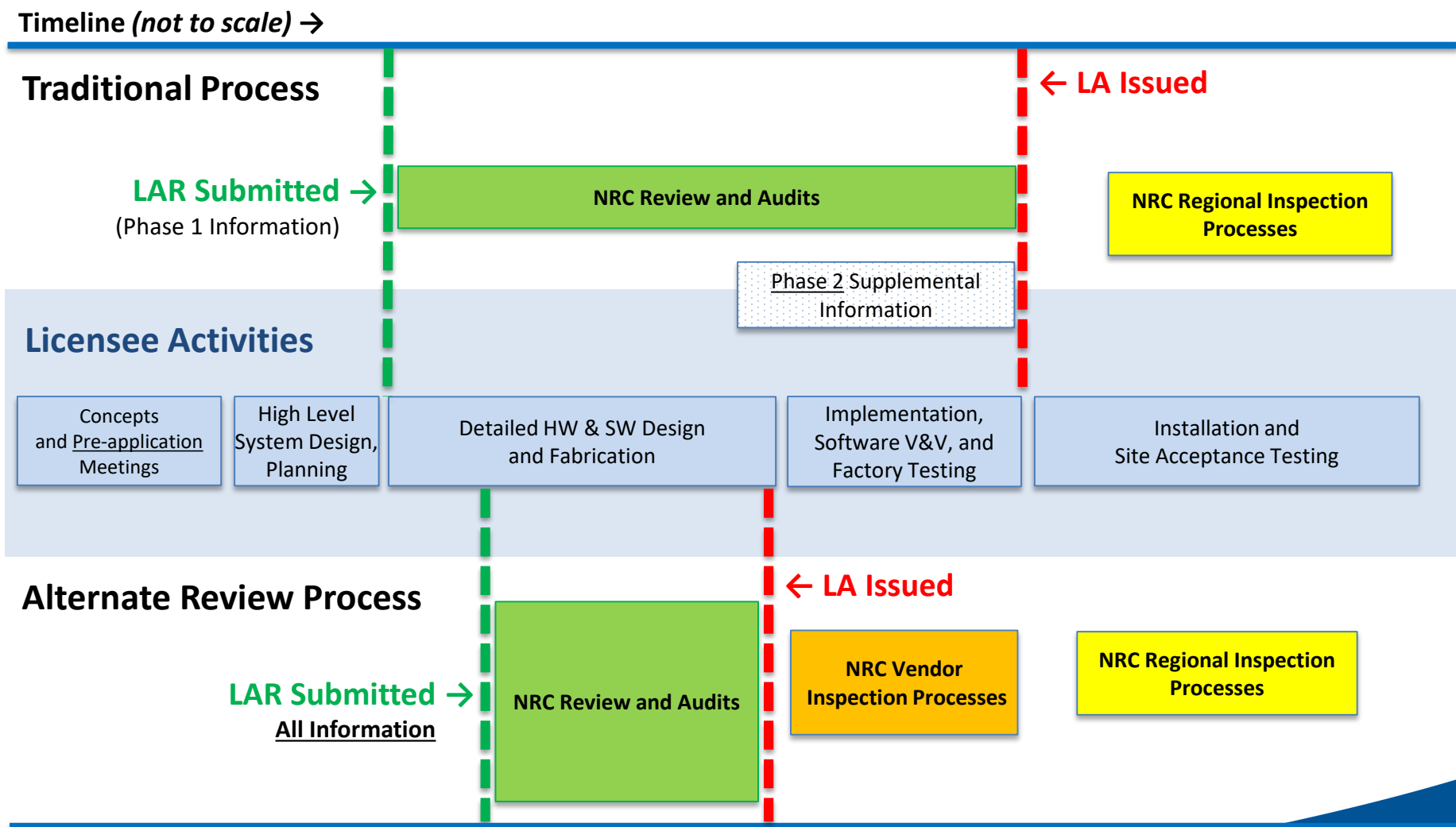
Clear 50.59  
Expectations

Endorsement of  
Updated Standards



# LICENSING INITIATIVES & ACCOMPLISHMENTS

# NRC DI&C Interim Staff Guidance (ISG) 06 Revision 2



# NRC Branch Technical Position 7-19

## *Risk-Informed Graded Approach*

	Safety-Related	Non-Safety Related
<b>Safety-Significant</b>  Significant contributor to plant safety	A1  <b>Analysis Needed:</b> D3 Assessment	B1  <b>Analysis Needed:</b> Qualitative Assessment
<b>Non-Safety-Significant</b>  Not a significant contributor to plant safety	A2  <b>Analysis Needed:</b> Qualitative Assessment	B2  <b>Analysis Needed</b> None may be needed

**Allows leveraging of any available risk information and insights**



# NRC Branch Technical Position 7-19

## *Clarification on Acceptable Methods for Addressing CCF*

Category	Method Name and Description
Eliminate	<b>Internal Diversity</b> If sufficient diversity exists within in the protection system, then vulnerabilities to Common Cause Failure (CCF) can be considered to be appropriately addressed without further action.
	<b>Simple Design</b> A system is sufficiently simple such that every possible combination of inputs and every possible sequence of device states are tested, and all outputs are verified for every case.
Limit	<b>Design Measures</b> Design measures are used to reduce the likelihood of a CCF (e.g., self-diagnostic, failure analysis, etc.).
Mitigate	<b>Existing Equipment</b> An existing system or equipment is used to perform the diverse or different function to mitigate the loss of the safety function performed by the digital I&C system during a Design Basis Event (DBE).
	<b>Manual Operator Action (MOA)</b> Actions that can be reasonably taken by operators to identify CCF failures and mitigate consequences within a realistic time frame during a DBE.
	<b>Diverse Actuation System (DAS)</b> Independent and diverse system that can activate protection systems if primary system fails during a DBE. Technology used can be analog or digital.
Accept	<b>Consequence Calculation</b> Consequence models, using best estimate methodologies, demonstrated that CCF failures concurrent with DBEs and Anticipated Operational Occurrences do not result in doses that exceed 10% of the applicable siting dose guideline values.

Next step is second briefing of ACRS Subcommittee in September after staff incorporates feedback received at June Subcommittee meeting



# Standards

- Endorsement of IEEE-603-2018
- Endorsement of IEEE 7-4.3.2-2016
- Considering broader use of International Electrotechnical Commission standards

# Licensing Accomplishments

- **New Reactors:**

- APR1400 Design Certification
- NuScale Design Certification

- **Research Reactors:**

- Purdue
- MIT

- **Topical Reports:**

- Lockheed Martin (Nuclear Protection & Control)
- Mitsubishi Heavy Industries (Mitsubishi Total Advanced Controller)
- Radiy (RadICS Digital I&C Platform)

- **Operating Reactors:**

- Hope Creek Power Range Neutron Monitoring System

# WHAT'S NEXT?

# Operating Reactor License Applications

- Developing NRC safety evaluation report templates
- Assessing inspection procedure enhancements
- Preparing staff in all relevant disciplines (I&C, human factors, systems engineers, lawyers)
- Reviewing Waterford Core Protection Calculator application
- Conducting pre-application discussions with Exelon regarding a broad digital modernization license application request anticipated June 2021

# Advanced Reactor Applications

- Developing NRC staff review guidance for I&C evaluations
- Preparing staff in all relevant disciplines
- Review of Oklo application

# NEI 20-07

- New guidance for addressing common cause failure
- Particularly focuses on the use of defensive measures as a way to demonstrate quality of digital systems
- NEI expects to provide a draft to NRC in September



# Digital Modernization!

*Our  
Destination*

**Efficient  
Licensing**



**Endorsement of  
Updated Standards**



**Clear 50.59  
Expectations**

