REAL EXAMPLES AND REAL IMPACTS

U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Regulatory Information Conference
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Chair | Ben Ficks

Deputy Chief Financial Officer, NRC

Panelists

01

FRAMEWORK & REACTOR EXAMPLES

REED ANZALONE

Data Scientist, NRR

02

MATERIALS EXAMPLES

MIRABELLE SHOEMAKER

International Safeguards Analyst, NMSS

03

REGIONAL EXAMPLES

BILLY DICKSON

Branch Chief, RIII

04

SECURITY EXAMPLES

STACY PRASAD

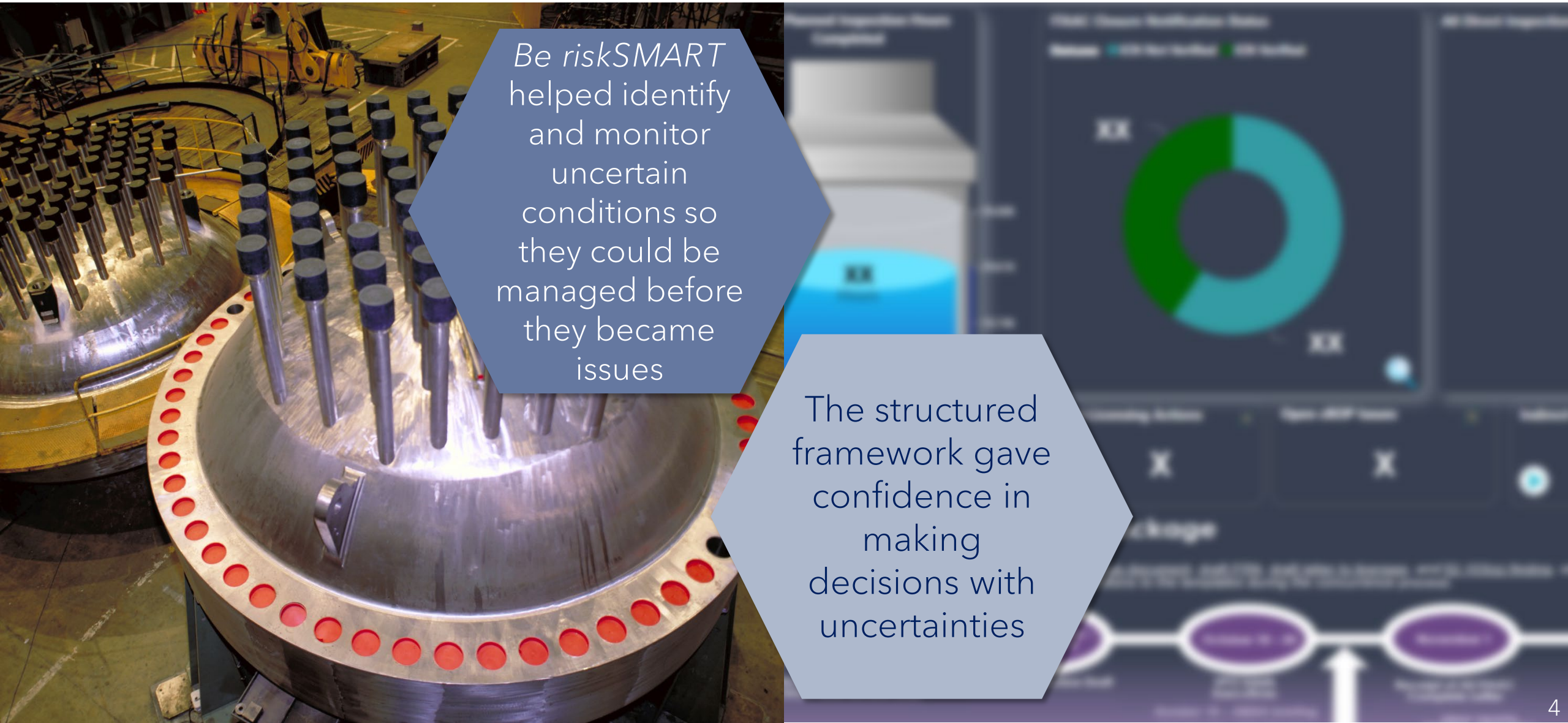
Security Risk Analyst, NSIR

Be… clear about the problem

S	M	A	R	T
SPOT	**MANAGE**	**ACT**	**REALIZE**	**TEACH**
…what can go right or wrong? …what are the consequences? …how likely is it?	…what you can	…on a decision	…the result	…others what you learned

Be riskSMART

Making decisions in the presence of uncertainty



Be riskSMART helped identify and monitor uncertain conditions so they could be managed before they became issues

The structured framework gave confidence in making decisions with uncertainties

Be riskSMART allowed us to use all available information to decide how to approach Vogtle Unit 4 operator licensing

Using all available information to make a decision

Revealing the entire toolbox for risk assessment and risk management

Using *Be riskSMART*:

- allowed a common approach for various disciplines from licensing and oversight to rulemaking
- enhanced staff decision making through systematic consideration of multiple factors with varying uncertainties

Early alignment on potential risks allowed the NRC to develop a management plan for **environmental reviews**

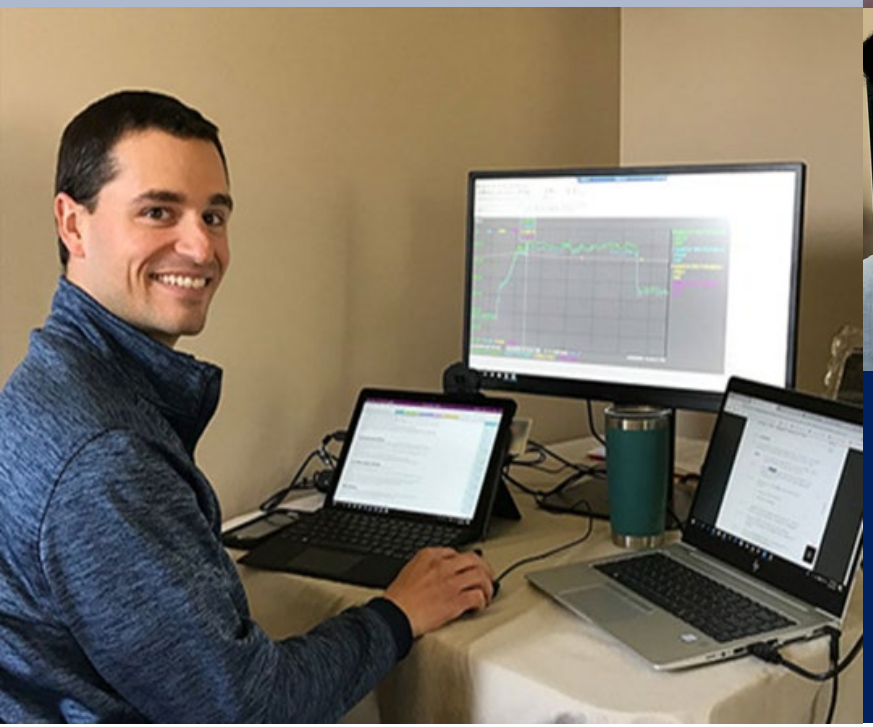
Identifying risks early allowed the NRC to focus on risk significance during the **COVID-19 public health emergency**

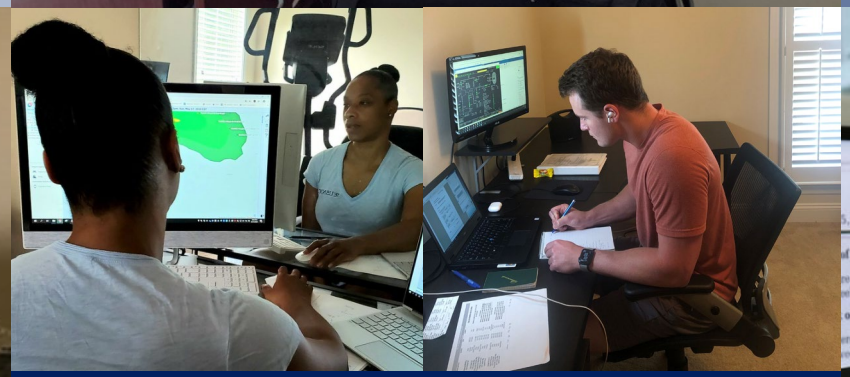
Achieving early alignment on risks

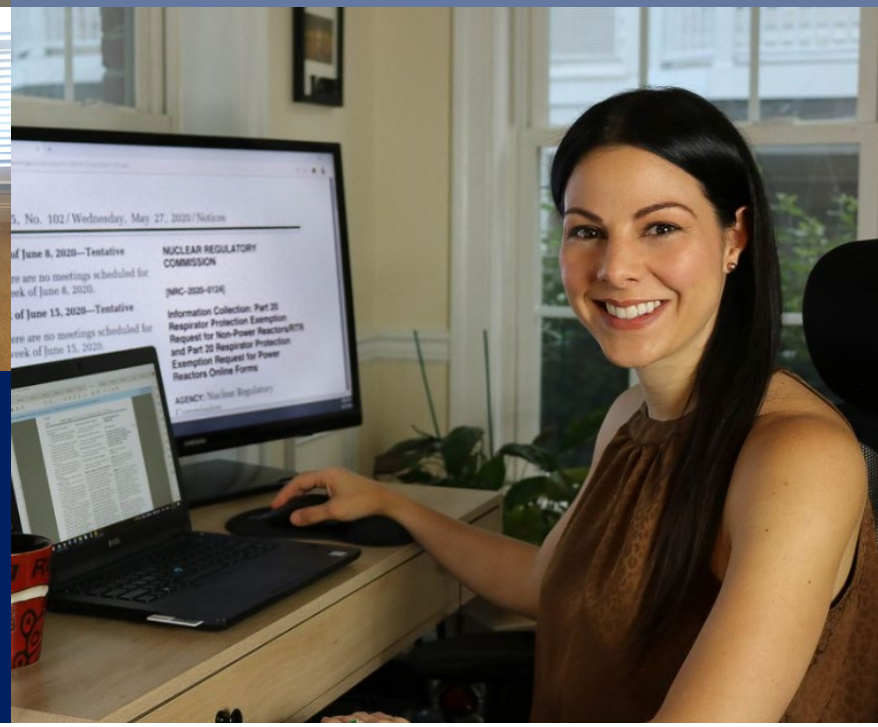
Enabling the adoption of new technology

Helped to evaluate the feasibility of using licensee-provided computer equipment as alternatives to the onsite presence of resident inspector staff for specific plant activities

Helped to evaluate the acceptability of performing critical ROP inspections such as problem identification and resolution inspection in a remote capacity







KEY RESULTS

More agile organization

Greater flexibility and the ability to adapt to changing conditions

Refining Processes

- Enhanced decision making within well-defined agency and regional processes
- Encouraged the understanding and consideration of risk-related information throughout the implementation of processes such as:
  - reactive inspections
  - resident inspector site coverage
  - inspection procedure execution and focus
- Amplified the idea that risk communication is not a separate component of the process

Removed unnecessary review timelines resulting in an expedited release of communications

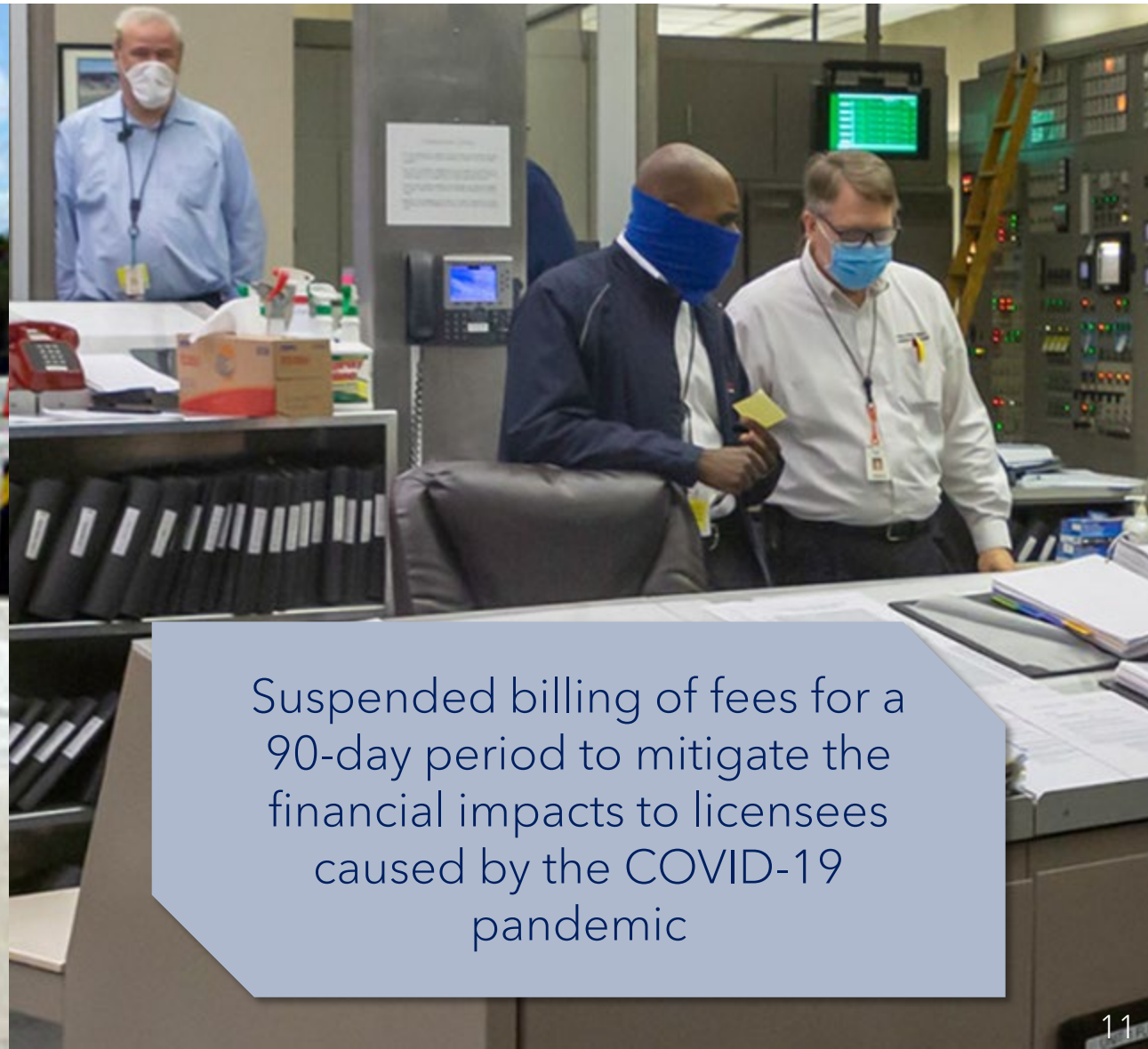
Assessed if licensee performance metrics could be used to risk-inform the cybersecurity inspection procedure

Determined a current notification process provided the lowest risk choice

More… Refining Processes

Selecting the Best Option

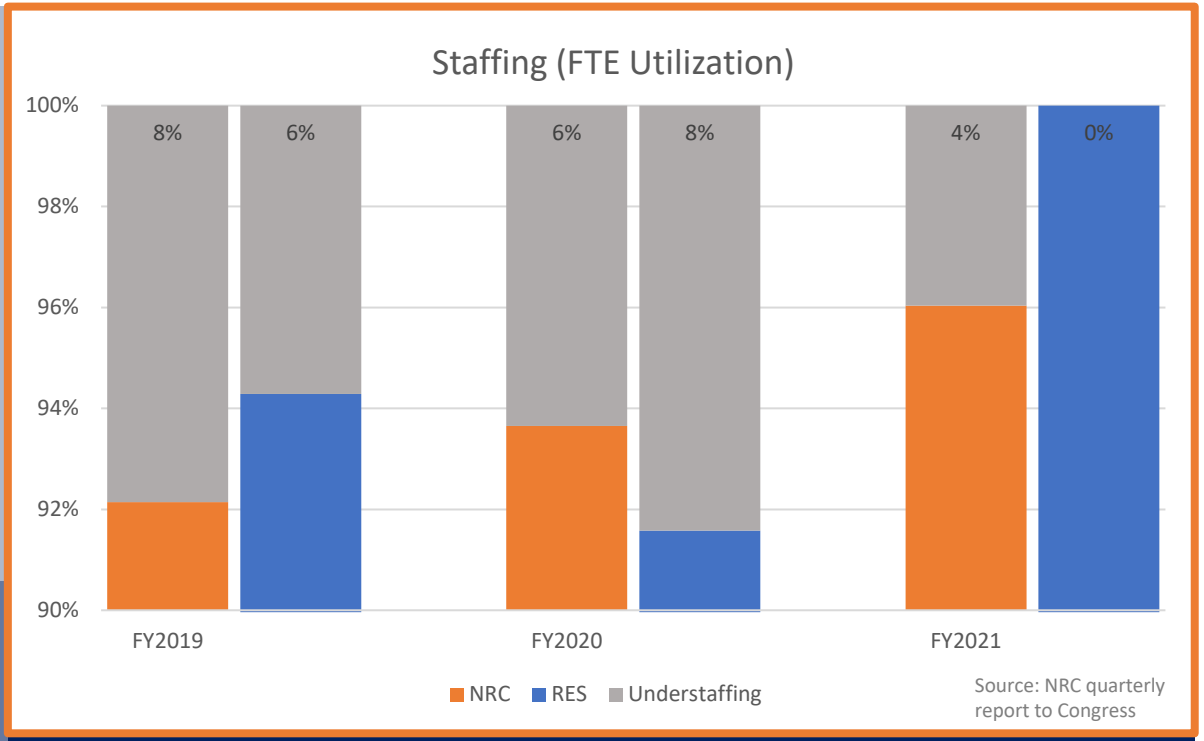
Assessed different options to safely perform and assess outcomes of required security inspections during the COVID-19 public health emergency



Suspended billing of fees for a 90-day period to mitigate the financial impacts to licensees caused by the COVID-19 pandemic

Advancing Strategic Workforce Planning Decisions

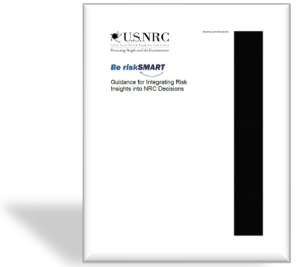
Recruited staff in key knowledge areas



Managed uncertainty around the timing of hiring processes

Used full bandwidth to prepare for future workforce

Real Examples, Real Impacts



NUREG/KM-0016:
Guidance for Integrating Risk Insights into NRC Decisions

Be riskSMART:
A Tool for Everyone

Web Site

External Stakeholder Feedback Survey on Transformation

We would like to acknowledge:

Mirela Gavrilas, Ph.D.
Director, Office of Nuclear Security and Incident Response
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Lead for the *Be riskSMART* Initiative

If you have additional questions, please contact:

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