NRC SUPPORT TO STANDARDS ORGS AND PREPARATIONS FOR FUTURE REACTORS

NEW & ADVANCED REACTORS: CODES & STANDARDS

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NRC's Standards Program



The NRC operates under a robust legal framework, guided by the NTTAA, OMB Circular A-119, and the Nuclear Energy Innovation and Modernization Act. This framework supports the NRC's commitment to:

 Develop and use consensus standards, as outlined in the NRC Policy on Codes and Standards.

 Engage in standards development, with guidance provided by NRC Management Directive 6.5. Key elements of the NRC's approach include:



Oversight by the Standards Steering Committee and the NRC Standards Executive.



Active participation of NRC staff in SDO committees.



Coordination and collaboration with other federal agencies through SDO Coordinators.



Prioritization and tracking of standards activities and staff involvement.

Annual reporting to OMB on consensus standards usage.



This streamlined structure ensures the NRC's effective participation in and utilization of
consensus standards, enhancing safety and regulatory compliance.2

The Standards Program is designed to align with the NRC's mission through the following key objectives:





Stakeholder Engagement: Actively involve stakeholders in the regulatory development processes to ensure a broad perspective and inclusivity.



Consensus Standards Development: Participate in crafting consensus standards that bolster the NRC's mission, ensuring regulatory frameworks are up-to-date and effective



Adherence to NTTAA: Utilize consensus standards in compliance with the National Technology Transfer and Advancement Act of 1995, reinforcing the commitment to national and international best practices.



International Consideration: Evaluate and incorporate standards from global organizations, such as the International Atomic Energy Agency, to align with worldwide safety and regulatory standards.



This approach underscores the NRC's dedication to safety, innovation, and regulatory excellence through collaborative and informed standardization. 3

NRC's Standards Executive



The Standards Executive plays a crucial role in steering the NRC's standards-related activities, both domestically and internationally. Their main responsibilities include:

Coordination

Spearheads NRC's engagement in international and national standards activities, including nominating staff to standards committees.

Policy Development

Works with NRC leadership to formulate policies, standards, and guides for the publication and disclosure of materials by NRC staff and contractors.

<u>Funding</u> <u>Provision</u>

Allocates funds for the publication of NRC staff papers and articles in journals.

<u>Security and Rights</u> <u>Protection</u>

Ensures that national security, patent rights, and commercial proprietary interests are safeguarded, and that nonpublic NRC information is not disclosed unauthorizedly.

Authorities and Delegation Powers



The Standards Executive has the discretion to delegate these responsibilities and authorities to other NRC staff, ensuring efficient and effective management of standards-related activities. 4

NRC staff play a pivotal role in shaping and maintaining standards crucial to the nuclear industry.

Their participation ensures that standards:



NRC Involvement in Adv. Reactor Initiatives



The NRC is a key participant in various working groups and collaborations aimed at advancing reactor codes, standards, licensing, and regulation.

MICROREACTORS



SMALL REACTORS, BIG POTENTIAL



<u>U.S. Department of Energy. "What Is a</u> <u>Microreactor?" YouTube, U.S. Department of</u> <u>Energy, 5 May 2021, youtu.be/KW0zUeHhMdo.</u>

Collaborations and Working groups:

Advanced Reactors Codes and Standards Collaborative (ARCSC) International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) Involvement

Nuclear Energy Agency (NEA) Committee On Nuclear Regulatory Activities (CNRA) Involvement - Working Group on New Technologies (WGNT)

Participation in and Endorsement of Impactful Code and Standard Actions

