

# Operator Licensing Program Office Update

Jim Anderson

Chief, Operator Licensing and Human  
Factors Branch

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# Topics

- OL program office functions
- Significant ongoing OL activities
  - Effectiveness review for NUREG-1021, Rev. 12
  - Revisions to NRC guidance and forms
- Tools and resources
  - Operator Licensing Program feedback
  - Written examination outline generator and exam development tools

# The program office works with the regions to implement the operator licensing program.

## Program office functions:

- Provide support as needed for the regions
- Audit selected examinations
- Provide biennial NRC examiner training
- Complete informal NRC staff reviews / appeals
- Review part 55 exemption requests and other requested licensing actions
- Support NRC international activities
- Coordinate engagement with OL stakeholders
- Oversee the NRC medical review contract
- Develop/revise regulations, guidance, forms

# The effectiveness review for NUREG-1021, Revision 12, is ongoing through 2027.

- Monitors the use of new and revised instructions and guidance to determine if additional actions are needed
- Most data collection ended in 2024 while some will continue through 2027 (see [ML23236A119](#)):
  - operator knowledge of generic fundamentals
  - CT methodology for AP1000 exams
  - overall pass rates on rev 12 exams

# Data collected as part of the effectiveness review has helped identify areas for improvement.

- Reports:
  - Interim Report, September 2023 (see [ML23304A006](#))
  - Two-year Report, September 2024 (see [ML24347A124](#))
- Areas for improvement:
  - Be cautious when using NRC GFE bank questions
    - Not site-specific
    - May contain psychometric errors or low level of difficulty (i.e., LOD 1)
  - Identify all critical tasks during scenario development
  - CT boundary conditions must make it possible for an applicant to pass or fail a critical task
  - Document a basis for time-based boundary conditions

The program office is focused on rulemaking, guidance and inspection procedure updates, and regional support.

- Rulemaking to respond to EO 14300 and the ADVANCE Act
  - Guidance updates for rulemaking projects, as needed
  - Modifying NUREG-1021 to shift away from each region preparing at least exam per year to when needed
- Other guidance projects
  - OL at advanced reactors and remote & autonomous operations (more on these topics tomorrow)
- Inspection procedure updates
  - IP 71111.11 and IP 41500
- Support for regions as needed for plant restart licensing activities

The NRC's website has tools and resources for exam developers.

- Operator Licensing Program Feedback (OLPF)
  - <https://www.nrc.gov/reactors/operator-licensing/program-feedback.html>
  - OLPFs answer questions about operator licensing topics and are organized according to NUREG-1021 section, IP 71111.11, simulator, and general topics
- "[Contact Us](#)" page
- Web-based written exam [outline generator](#)
- Exam and requal inspection [schedule](#)
- K/A catalogs in Excel form / NUREG-1021 forms in Excel and Word form

# Questions?