

Welcome to NRC Day

TRTR 2026 Annual Conference

September 23, 2026



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TRTR Annual Conference

Non-Power Production and Utilization Facility Branch (NPUFB)

Oversight, Facility Licensing, and Operator Licensing Overview

Duane Hardesty, Chief, NPUF Branch

duane.hardesty@nrc.gov



NRC Day Presentations



Overview of NPUF Licensing and Oversight

Duane Hardesty, Branch Chief

Operator Licensing

Michele DeSouza, Chief Examiner

Exam Documents and Electronic Submissions

Nia Jones, Operator License Asst

Quality License Amendment Applications

Eric Miller, NPUF Project Manager

Technical Specifications Action Statements

Ken Anderson, RTR Examiner

10 CFR 50.59, Changes, Tests, and Experiments

Eric Miller, NPUF Project Manager

Update on Security Rule Modernization

Kara Smith, Security Specialist

Inspection Program Updates for IMC 2545

Jonathan Braisted, RTR Inspector

Q&A Panel-Licensing, Inspection, and Security

NRC staff

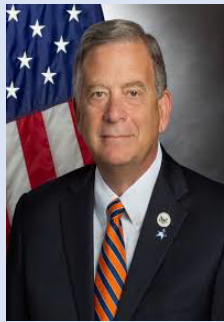
NRC Senior Leadership



Commission



Ho K. Nieh
Chairman



David A.
Wright
Commissioner



Bradley R.
Crowell
Commissioner



Matthew J.
Marzano
Commissioner



Douglas W.
Weaver
Commissioner

Office of Executive Director for Operations (EDO)



Michael F. King
Executive Director for
Operations (EDO)



Sabrina Attack
Deputy Executive
Director for Reactor,
Materials, and
Preparedness
Programs

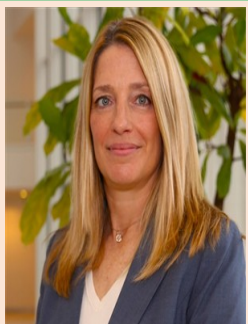


Caroline
Carusone
Deputy Executive
Director for Mission
Support.



David Curtis
Deputy Executive
Director for Mission
Support.

Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation (NRR)



Anna Bradford
Director NRR



Jake Zimmerman
Deputy for
Licensing Programs



Samuel Lee
Deputy for
Technical Programs



Jason Kozal
Deputy for Nuclear
Security and
Incident Response

Division of Licensing Projects II (DLP2)



DLP2 Management



Vic Cusumano
Director



Trish Gallalee
Technical Assistant



Tonna Weaver
Division Admin
Assistant

DLP2 Branch Chiefs



Steve Koenick
License Renewal
Environmental



Jason Paige
License Renewal
Safety



Duane Hardesty
NPUF Licensing
and Oversight



Damaris Marcano
Operating
Reactor Topical
Reports

NPUF Branch Staff



Project Managers:



Andrew Miller



Brooke Gallagher



Eric Miller



Cindy Montgomery

Chief Examiners:



Michele DeSouza



Maggie Goodwin



Ken Anderson



TBD New Hire

Inspectors:



Andrew Waugh



Brian Lin



Jon Braisted



Jared Nadel

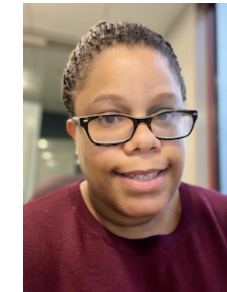


Necota Staples

Licensing Assistants:



Nicole Parker



Nia Jones

Fleet of 29 Operating Research Reactors

• 22 Pool

- 15 TRIGA (AFRRI, Dow Chemical, Kansas State, Oregon State, Penn State, Reed, Texas A&M, USGS, UC Davis, UC Irvine, Maryland, UT Austin, Utah, Wisconsin, Washington State)
- 5 MTR (Ohio State, Purdue, Rhode Island, U Mass Lowell, Missouri University of Science and Technology)
- 1 PULSTAR (NC State)
- 1 Critical Assembly (Rensselaer PI)

• 3 Tank

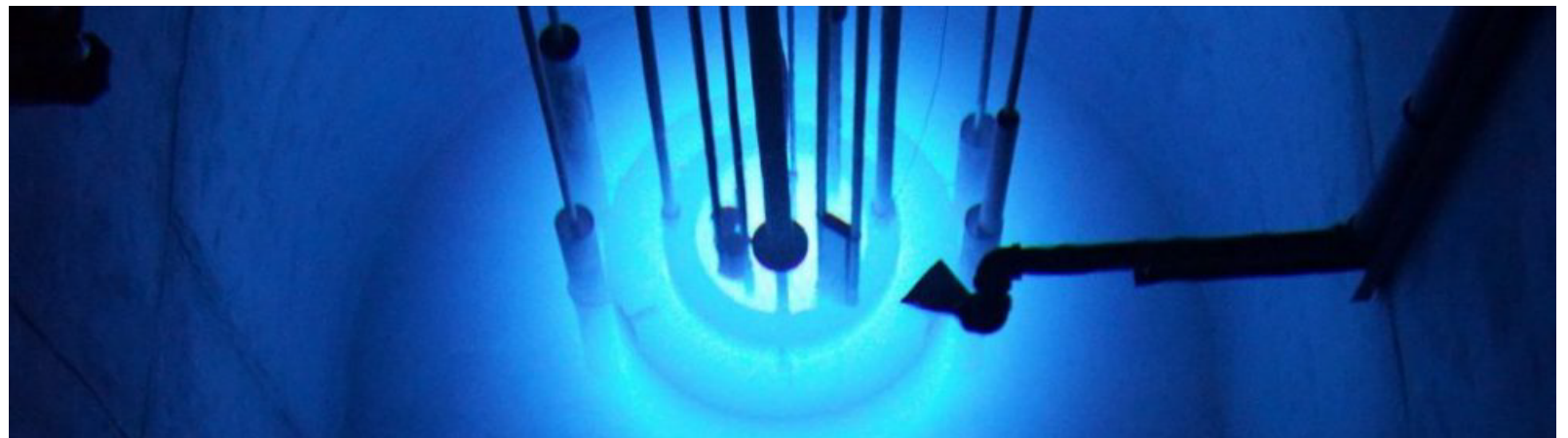
- 2 CP5 type (MIT, NIST - MTR)
- 1 Tank in Pool (MURR - MTR)

• 3 AGN (Idaho, TAMU, U New Mexico)

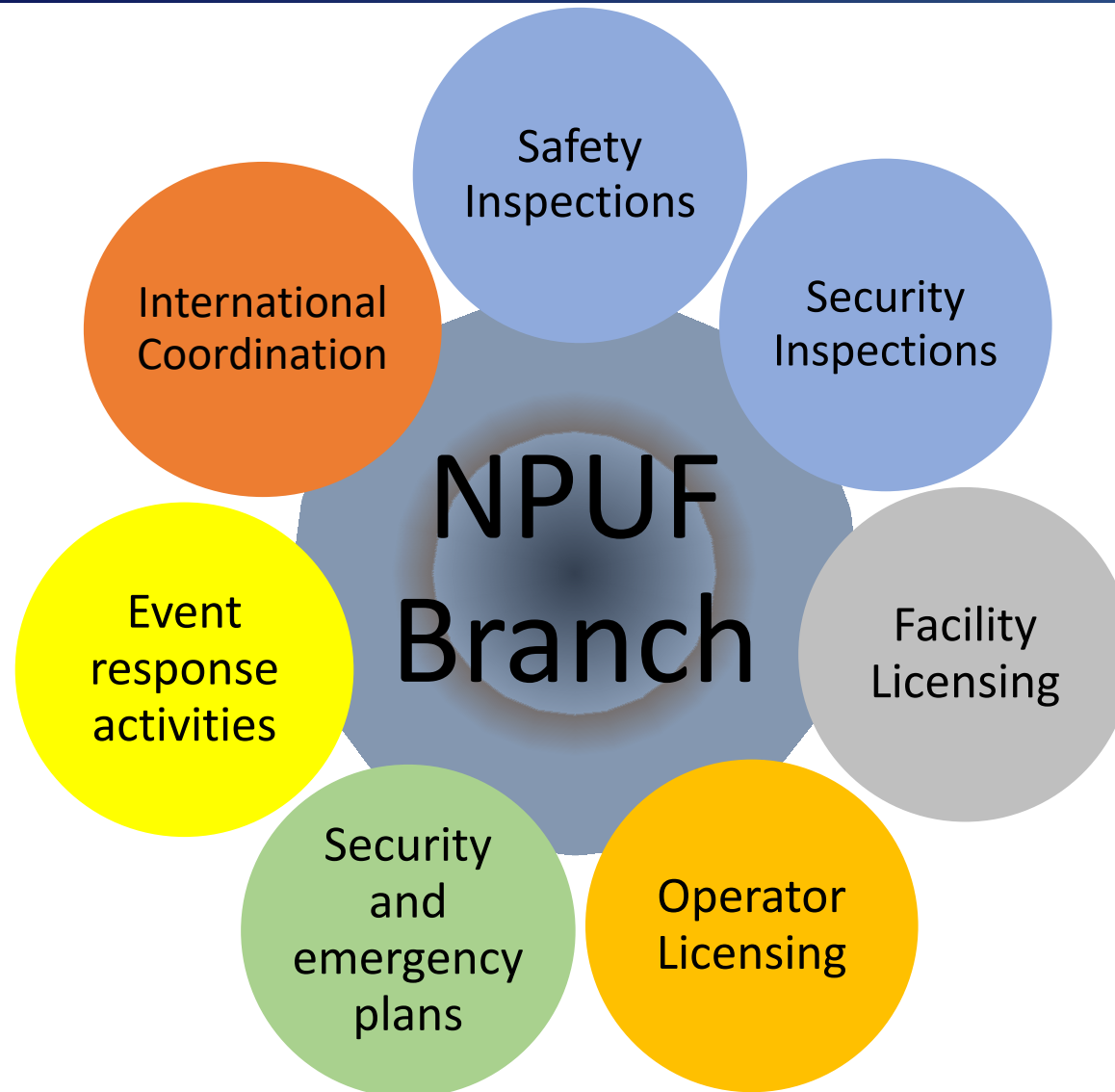
• 1 Argonaut (Florida - MTR)

List of Project Managers, Backup PM, & Inspectors:

<https://www.nrc.gov/reactors/operating/project-managers.html#pwr>



NPUF Branch Areas of Responsibility



License Amendments — Completed



- ✓ TAMU TRIGA: Administrative changes to TS 6.2 & 6.2.1
 - ML26029A100 — Completed February 5, 2026
- ✓ NIST: Reclassification to a Research Reactor
 - ML26049A031 — Completed March 13, 2026

License Amendments — Withdrawn



- ☒ RPI: Add Extended Shutdown Condition
 - ML25259A153 — Withdrawn September 17, 2025
- ☒ TAMU (AGN): Changes to TS 3.5 (Removing Items from Storage)
 - ML26128A219 — Withdrawn May 8, 2026
- ☒ TAMU (AGN): Administrative changes to TS 6.4.3
 - ML26128A219 — Withdrawn May 8, 2026
- ☒ UNM: Changes to TS 3.4.d to update the types of materials allowed in the reactor thermal column
 - ML26055A424 — Withdrawn February 27, 2026

Exemptions — Completed



- ✓ Reed College: 55.53(e) Exemption
 - ML26133A314 — Completed May 31, 2026
 - 55.59(b) Commission approved Additional Training
- ✓ NIST: Part 55 Exemption
 - ML26086A084 — Completed March 31, 2026
- ✓ NIST: Part 55 Exemption Extension Letter
 - Extension issued on August 28, 2025 — ML25356A535
 - Completed January 20, 2026

License Amendments — In Progress



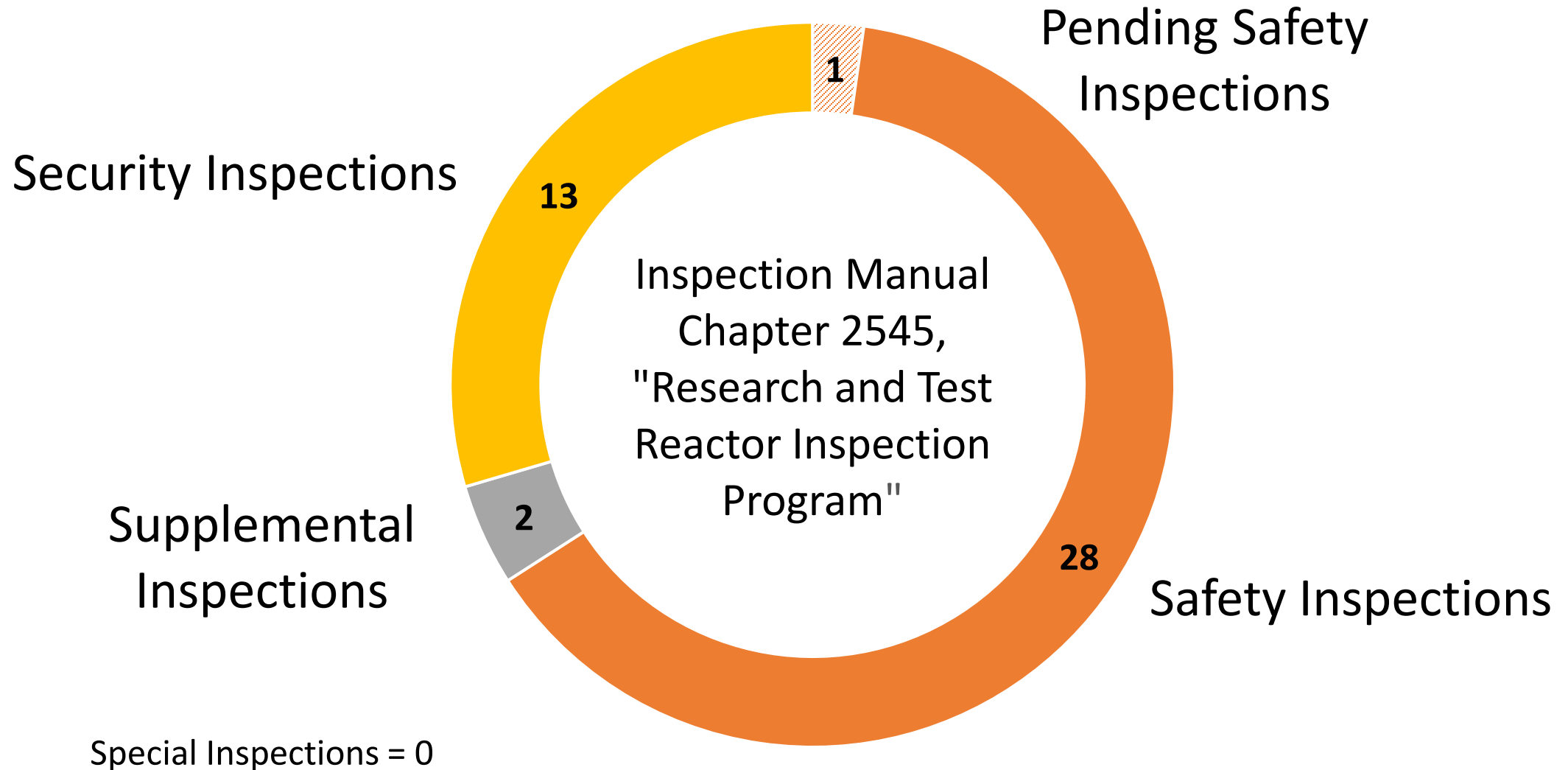
- MURR: Revise Technical Specifications for Ancillary Exhaust Systems
— ML25321A748, Due by October 12, 2026
- TAMU – TRIGA: Update License Conditions for Byproduct Material
— ML25244A001, Due by October 2, 2026
- UMass Lowell: Change Reporting Structure
— ML26218A201, Due by November 6, 2026
- AFRRI: Raise Permissible Source Material Limits
— ML26236A012, Due by August 16, 2027
- AFRRI: Modify Low Source Interlock
— ML26238A026, Due by August 16, 2027
- Utah: Update Fuel Inspection Surveillance Requirements
— ML26194A156, Due by July 12, 2027
- Utah: Update LCO Regarding pH Range Limitation
— ML26194A151, Due by July 12, 2027

Other Ongoing Licensing Projects

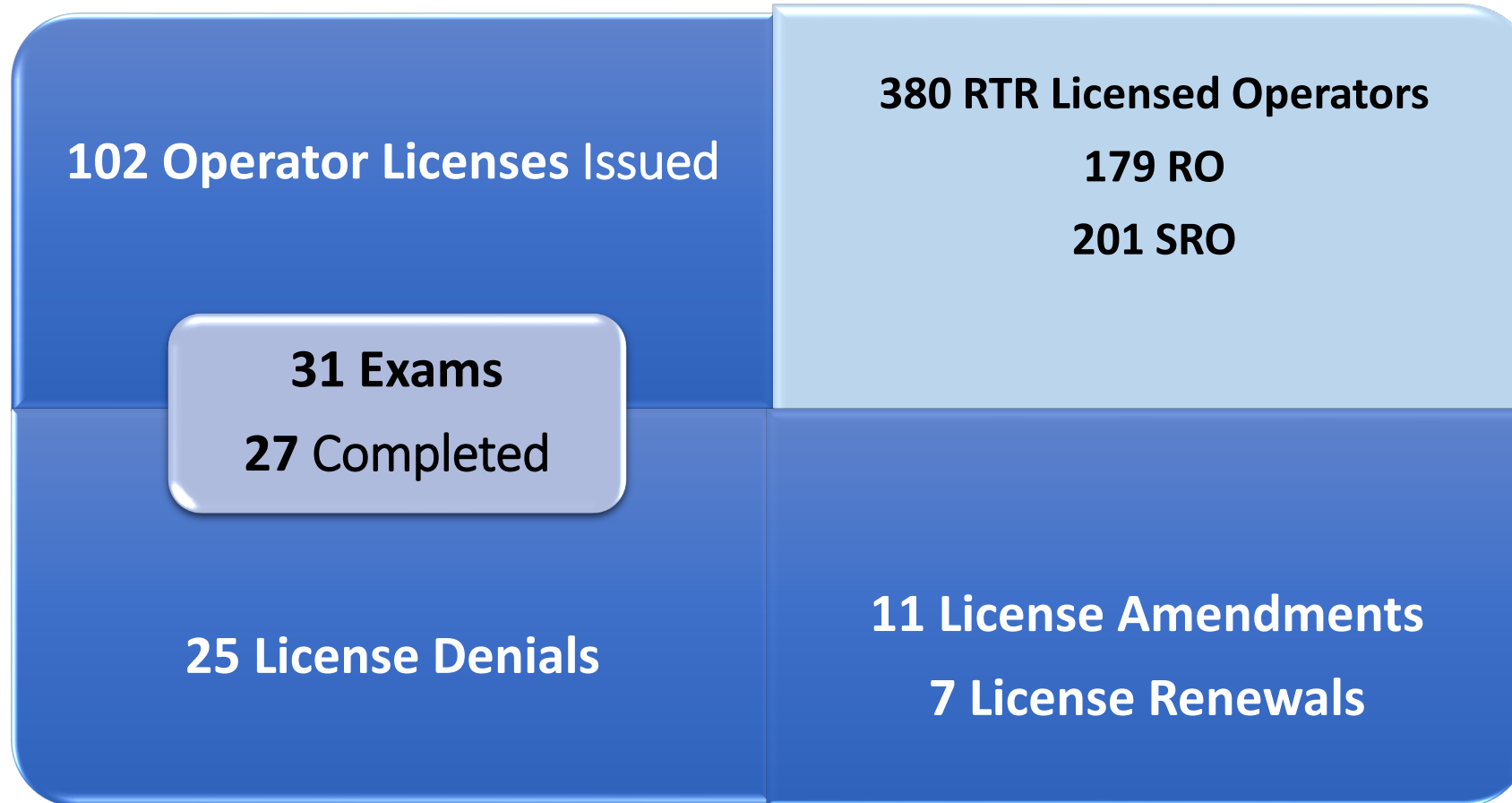


- License renewals: University of Texas-Austin and North Carolina State
- NIST requalification program revision
- RG 2.9 Endorsement of NEI 23-03, “Supplemental Guidance for Application of 10 CFR 50.59 to Digital Modifications at Non-Power Production or Utilization Facilities.”
- Pre-application activities: Abilene Christian University, University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign, Eden Radioisotopes, and Atomic Alchemy, Inc.
- HEU to LEU fuel qualification and future conversions of NIST, MURR, and MIT.

FY26 Oversight Program Activity



FY26 Operator Examination Activity

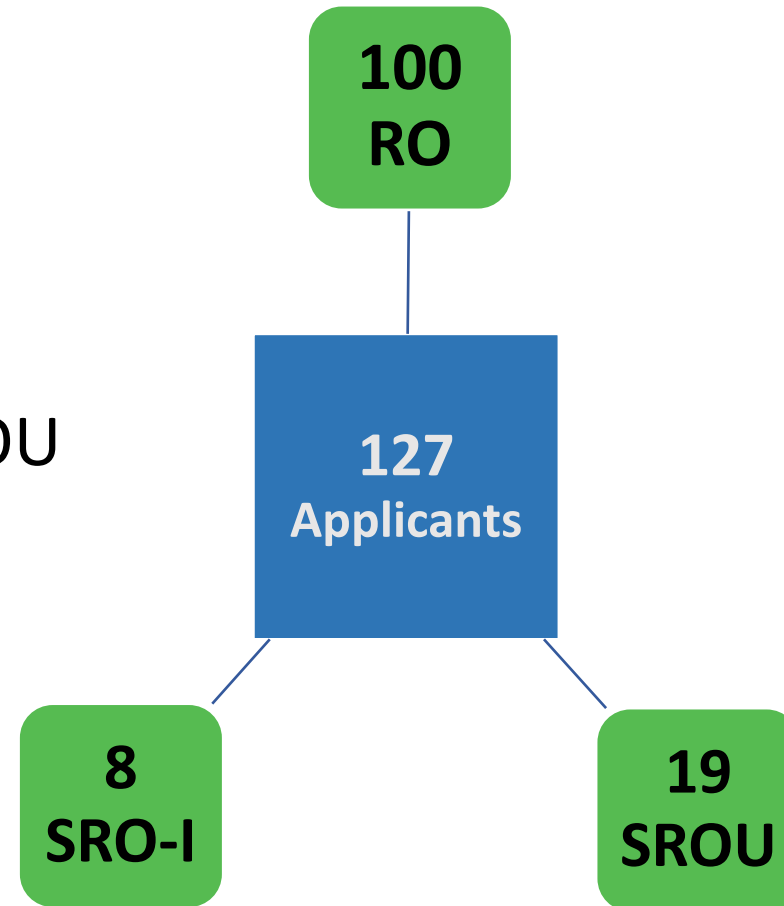


FY26 Operator Examination Activity

Reactor Operator – RO

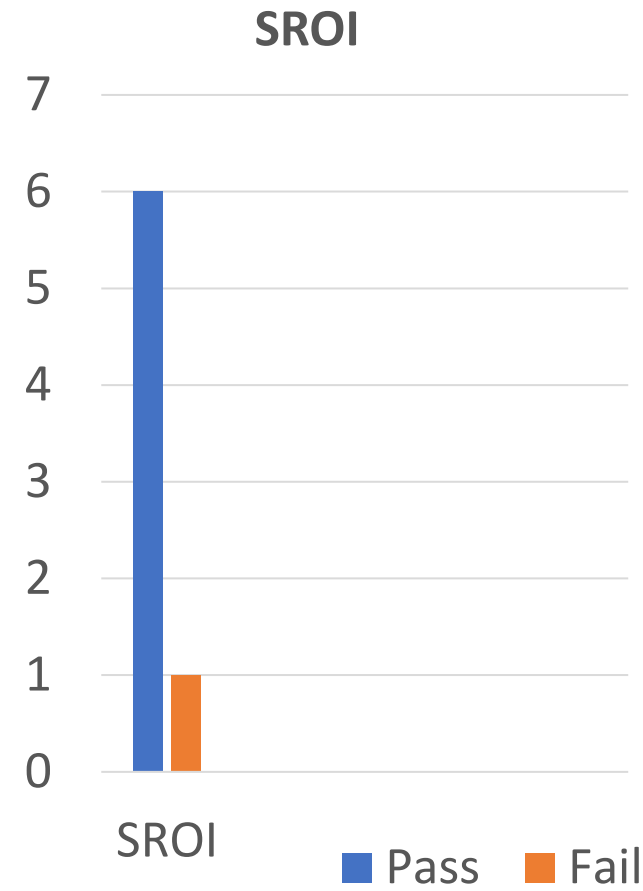
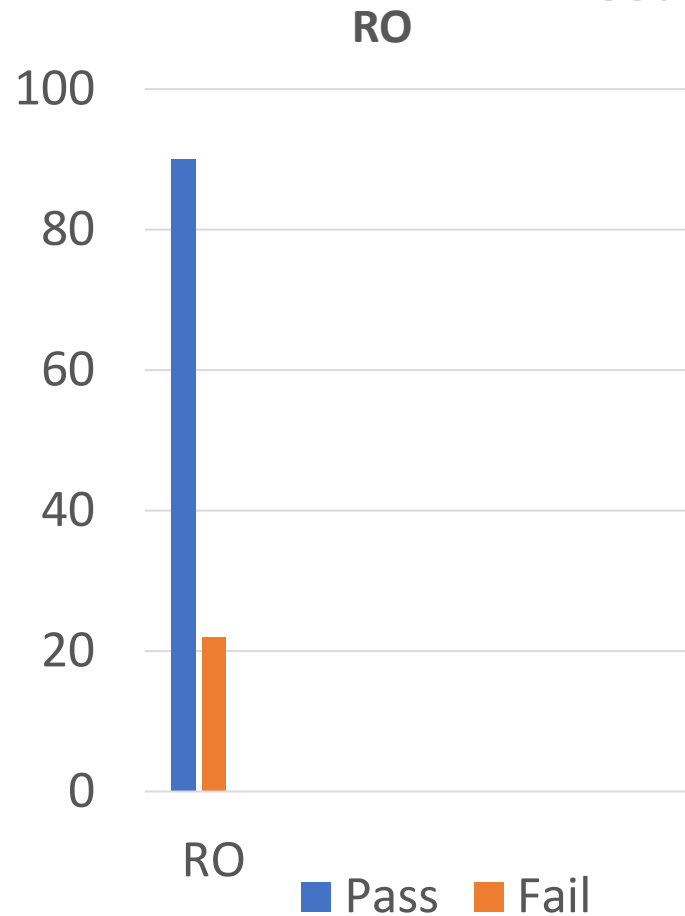
Senior Reactor Operator Instant – SROI

Senior Reactor Operator Upgrade - SROU



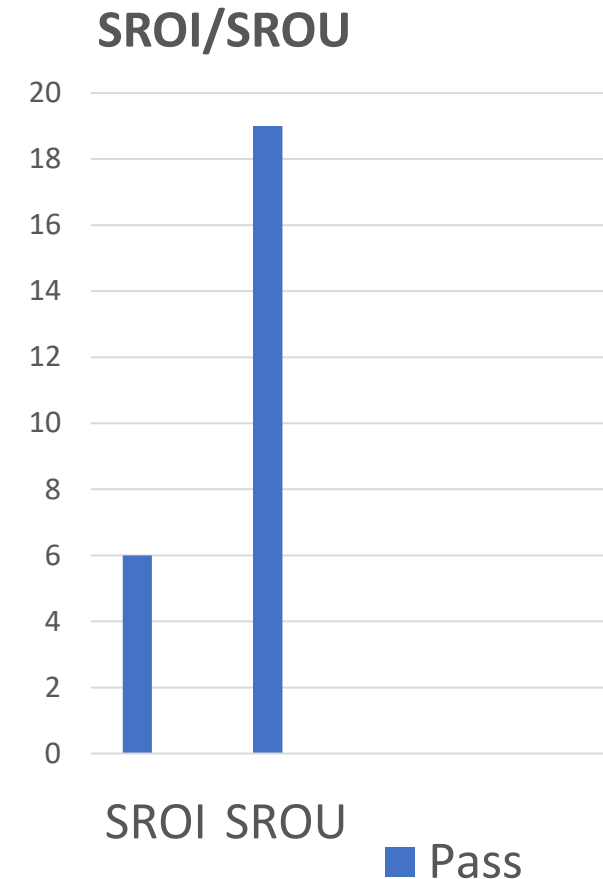
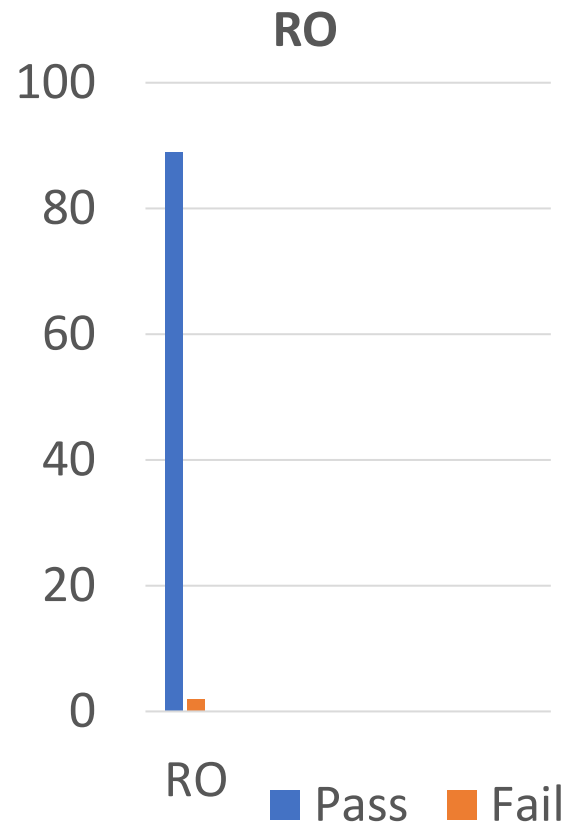
FY26 Operator Examination Activity

Written Examination



FY26 Operator Examination Activity

Operations Test



Other Items of Interest

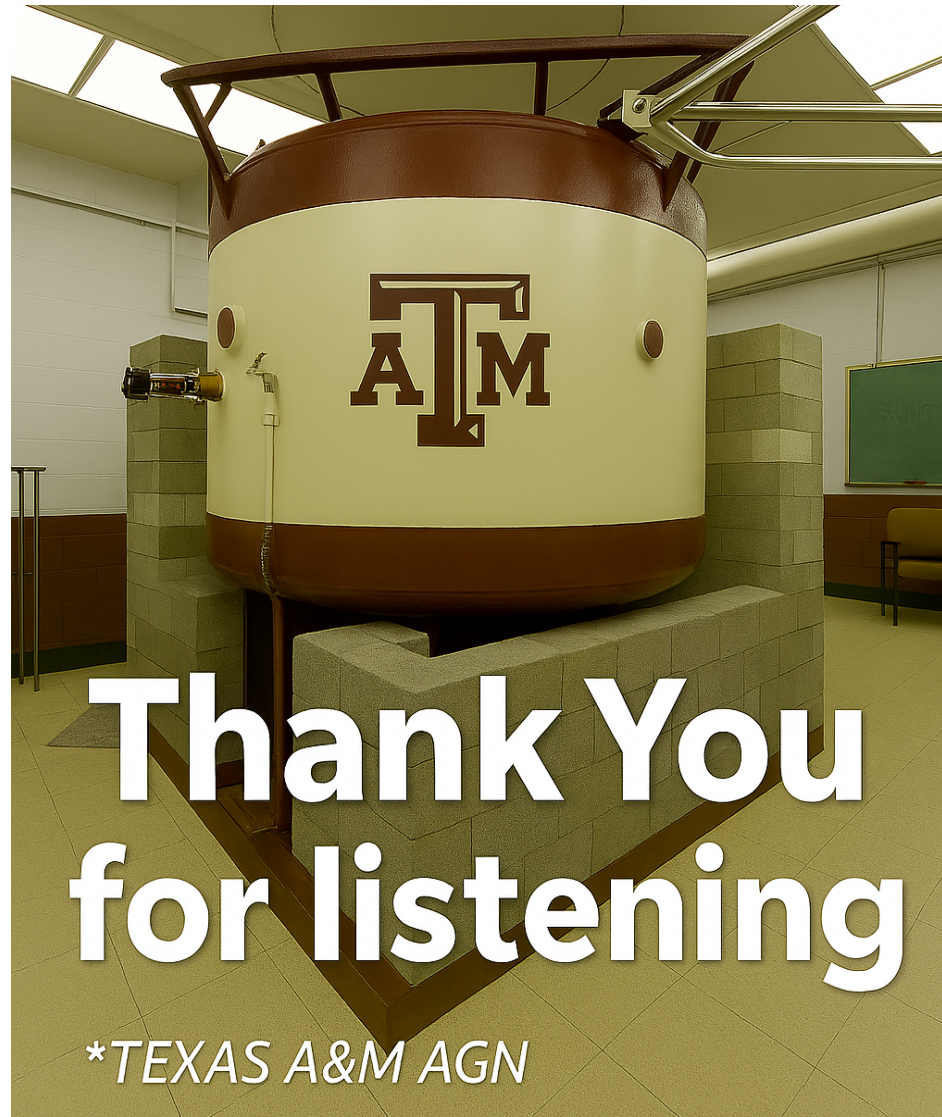


- Issued Interim Staff Guidance (ISG), DANU-ISG-2026-01, “Security Requirements for Nonpower Production and Utilization Facility Applicants and Licensees.”
- EO 14300 Review and revision of regulations and guidance documents
 - NUREG-1478, Revision 3 Draft for Comment
- International activities:
 - INSARR Mission Support, SATER
 - Technical Meeting on use of Artificial Intelligence for Research Reactors

Useful NRC Links



- [NPUF FSAR Status](#): Final Safety Analysis Report Update Tracking for Non-Power Production and Utilization Facility Order
- [NRC Electronic Submittal Application](#): NRC public website to assist with electronic submittals to NRC
- [NRC Public Documents](#): Link to Public Agencywide Documents Access and Management System (ADAMS)
- [NRC Prospective Applicant Guide](#): Provides information, guidance, and support for applicants who are currently in the development process of a nuclear reactor design or reactor-related project that have not yet contacted the NRC. Discusses the steps necessary for an applicant to take before reaching out to the NRC and will also provide the appropriate way to contact the NRC for a project.

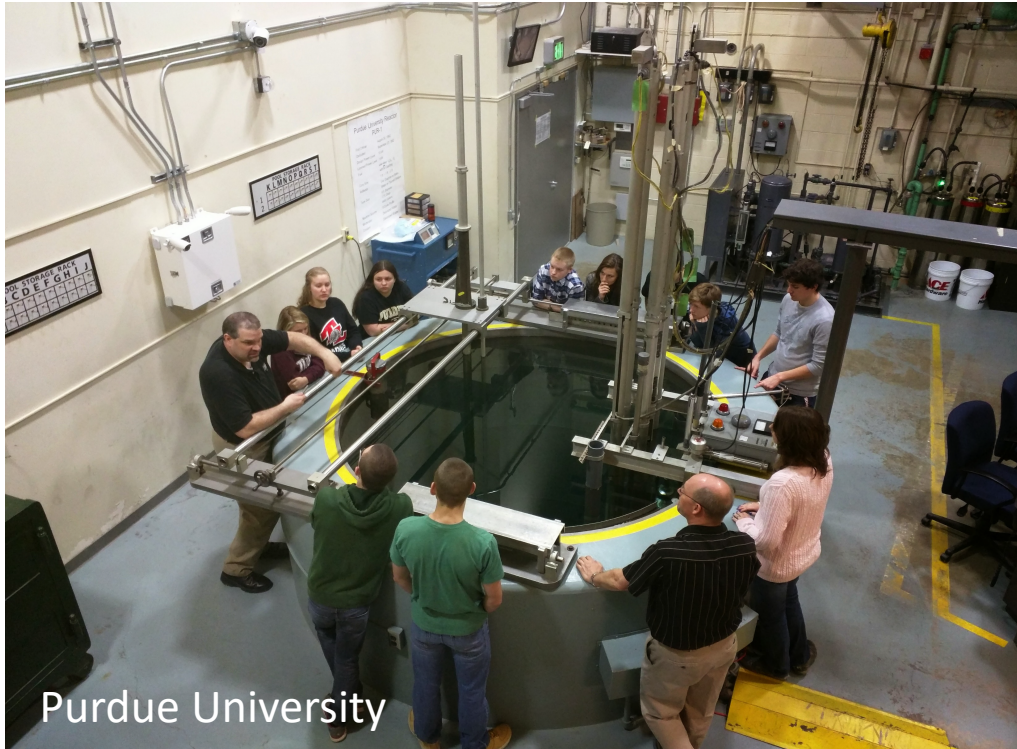


NRC Mission Statement



*The NRC **protects** public health and safety and advances the nation's common defense and security by **enabling** the safe and secure use and deployment of civilian nuclear energy technologies and radioactive materials through **efficient** and reliable licensing, oversight, and regulation for the **benefit** of society and the environment.*

NRC Mission Statement



PROTECTS

- **Definition:** Our first obligation: protecting public health and safety and advancing common defense and security.
- **Why it matters:** It anchors public trust and is the baseline for evaluating NRC performance.
- **Branch example:** IMC 2545 safety and security inspections, targeted enforcement (NOV/NCV), and incident-response coordination at research reactors.

Mission Statement

The NRC **protects** public health and safety and advances the nation's common defense and security by enabling the safe and secure use and deployment of civilian nuclear energy technologies and radioactive materials through efficient and reliable licensing, oversight, and regulation for the benefit of society and the environment.

NRC Mission Statement



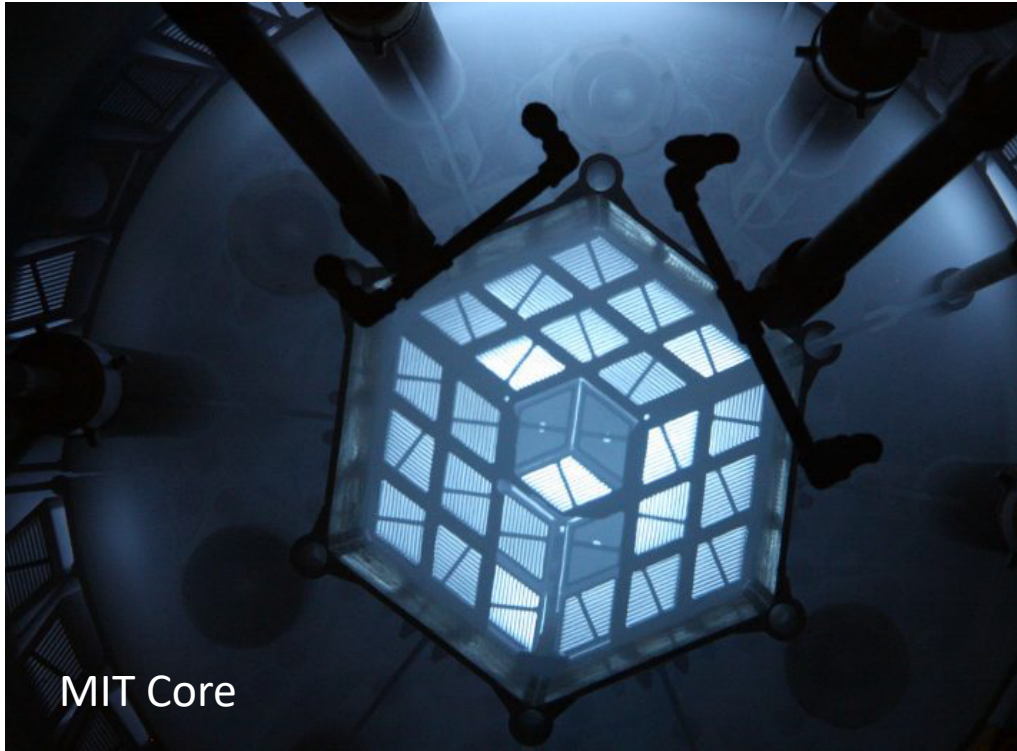
ENABLING

- **Definition:** Facilitating the safe and secure use and deployment of civilian nuclear technologies when requirements are met.
- **Why it matters:** The ADVANCE Act directs NRC to enable innovation while staying true to the Atomic Energy Act's safety and security principles.
- **Branch example:** Advancing licensing actions (e.g., TAMU TRIGA TS amendment; NIST reclassification) and issuing targeted Part 55 exemptions that unblock compliant paths.

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EFFICIENT

- **Definition:** Timely, predictable, high-quality licensing, oversight, and regulation.
- **Why it matters:** We are removing friction without reducing rigor.
- **Branch example:** Meeting inspection and licensing milestones and consolidating security expectations via the NPUF Security ISG to streamline compliance.

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NRC Mission Statement



BENEFIT

- **Definition:** Delivering tangible value to society and the environment through safe nuclear progress.
- **Why it matters:** Benefits, medical care, research, education, and reliable energy, are durable only when coupled to protection of people and the environment.
- **Branch example:** Enabling university research and training, supporting medical isotope production, and progressing HEU-to-LEU conversions.

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