

# Public Confidence



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# Public Confidence

## Strategies for Increasing Public Confidence

- Make Public Participation in the Regulatory Process More Accessible
- Provide Focused, Clear, Consistent, and Timely Communication
- Continue to Enhance NRC's Accountability and Credibility
- Report on Nuclear Power Plant Performance Openly and Objectively
- Foster an Environment for Open Identification of Safety Issues

# Principles of Good Regulation

**INDEPENDENT.** ...independence does not imply isolation....The NRC will seek all available facts and opinions openly from licensees and other interested members of the public ... The NRC will strive to base final decisions on objective, unbiased assessments of all information and explicitly state its reasons for the decisions.

**OPEN.** ...Nuclear regulation is the public's business, and it must be transacted publicly and candidly. The public must be informed about and have the opportunity to participate in the regulatory processes... Open channels of communication must be maintained...

**EFFICIENT.** ... The NRC must establish means to evaluate and continually upgrade its regulatory capabilities. Regulatory activities should be consistent with the degree of risk reduction they achieve. ...Regulatory decisions should be made without undue delay.

**CLEAR.** Regulations should be coherent, logical, and practical. There should be a clear nexus between regulations and agency goals and objectives whether explicitly stated. Agency positions should be readily understood and easily applied.

**RELIABLE.** Regulations should be based on the best available knowledge from research and operational experience. ...Once established, regulation should be perceived by all stakeholders to be reliable and not unjustifiably in a state of transition. The NRC's regulatory actions should ... lend stability to the nuclear operational and planning processes.