

# RIC 2004

## Safety Conscious Work Environment Session T5

### Guidance for Maintaining a SCWE

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# SCWE Regulatory Background

- SCWE Policy Statement, 1996
  - Provides Agency's expectations that:
    - Licensees create/maintain an environment where work force is encouraged to raise safety concerns without fear of retaliation
    - Elements of a SCWE include:
      - Effective processes for problem identification and resolution
      - Training
      - Contractor awareness of their responsibilities
      - Involvement of senior management in alleged cases of discrimination



# SCWE Regulatory Background

(cont.)

- SRM dated March 26, 2003
  - Directed staff to develop further guidance
    - “Best Practices” to Encourage a SCWE
    - Emphasize training of management
    - Consult with stakeholders



# “Best Practices” Guidance

- NRC Staff developed a draft outline of a best practices guidance document
  - Posted on Allegations web site ([www.nrc.gov](http://www.nrc.gov) , What We Do, Allegations, Best Practices)
  - Solicited comments in the Federal Register (69 FR 7025)
- Public meeting February 19, 2004
  - Roundtable discussion
  - Representatives from industry, whistleblowers, and trainers
- Comment period expires March 19, 2004



# Public Meeting Summary

## ■ Issues discussed

What format would guidance take?

- Regulatory Guide?
- Web page?
- NUREG?

“Best” Practices

- “Best” practices for one licensee may not be appropriate for another

General agreement on elements in draft outline



# SCWE Guidance Document Status

- Comment period still open
- Expect to publish draft document for further comment

