

Pandemic Influenza – Regulatory Issues

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Background

- November 1, 2005, President Bush announced the *National Strategy for Pandemic Influenza (National Strategy)* - Directed all Federal Agencies to begin internal planning to ensure readiness in the event of an influenza pandemic
- May 2006, the Homeland Security Council issued the *National Strategy for Pandemic Influenza Implementation Plan*
- August 7, 2006, the Commission approved the *United States Nuclear Regulatory Commission Interim Pandemic Response Plan*.



NRC Plan

- The NRC's Interim Pandemic Response Plan is consistent with the *National Strategy*
- The plan builds from a well established and exercised Continuity of Operations Plan
- Goals
 - (1) Maintain essential functions and services - ensure adequate protection of public health and safety, common defense and security, and the environment;
 - (2) Provide for the health and safety of the NRC employees;
 - (3) Prepare for and mitigate potential adverse impacts of a pandemic;
 - (4) Communicate pandemic preparedness and response guidance to stakeholders.



Essential Functions

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 - Incident Response
 - Threat Assessment and Dissemination
 - Licensing
 - Inspection
 - Enforcement



Licensing

- Goal - Ensure safety while responding to licensee exemption, amendment, and relief requests
- Approaches
 - Defer some routine licensing work
 - Where applicable, streamline review and issuance
 - Specific Model TS/LCO/AOT items based on Standard TSs



Inspection

- Goal – Ensure safety by inspecting risk-significant safety and security issues
- Approaches
 - Maintain adequate resident inspector coverage
 - Defer, delay, or modify core inspection program
 - 3 to 5 Deep Staffing Plan
 - Inspect Licensee Preparations similar to strike preparation inspections



Enforcement Discretion

- Goal – Ensure safety while responding to licensee requests for temporary relief of License Conditions and TSs.
- Approach
 - Revision of the NOED process



NRR Work Prioritization

- How are we prioritizing work?
 - Developing procedure to rank existing workload and incoming work
 - Continual assessment of staff resources and use of add/shed process based on available resources
- High Priority
 - Work that supports maintaining safety and security
 - Work that supports continued plant operation and startup from outages



NRR Pandemic Status

- Implementing NRC Pandemic Response Plan
- NRR Pandemic Plan Under Preparation – Scheduled Completion in 2007
- Reviewing NEI Pandemic Licensing Plan Draft White Paper

Questions, comments, and suggestions
are welcome!

