



**RIC 2007**  
**Safety Culture Enhancements -**  
**An Ongoing Process**

Session: Reactor Inspection and Assessment

James Andersen, Branch Chief

Nuclear Regulatory Commission

March 14, 2007

# Background

- Davis-Besse Reactor Pressure Vessel Head Event
- Congressional Interest
- Other Stakeholder Recommendations
- Commission Direction

# Reactor Oversight Process (ROP) Framework

- Graded regulatory response to deteriorating licensee performance
- Modified existing inspection procedures and manual chapters to more fully address safety culture
- Remain transparent, understandable, objective, predictable, risk-informed, and performance-based
- The intent of the ROP enhancements is to identify licensee problems related to safety culture earlier, and to prevent further licensee performance degradation

# Safety Culture Components

| Associated with the three Cross-Cutting Areas  | Not associated with the three Cross-Cutting Areas  |
|--|--|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Decision-making (HP)</li> <li>- Resources (HP)</li> <li>- Work Control (HP)</li> <li>- Work Practices (HP)</li> <li>- Corrective Action Program (PI&amp;R)</li> <li>- Operating Experience (PI&amp;R)</li> <li>- Self- and Independent Assessment (PI&amp;R)</li> <li>- Environment for Raising Concerns (SCWE)</li> <li>- Preventing, Detecting, and Mitigating Perceptions of Retaliation (SCWE)</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Accountability</li> <li>- Continuous Learning Environment</li> <li>- Organizational Change Management</li> <li>- Safety Policies</li> </ul> |

# Safety Culture Implementation

- What does it mean to the NRC?
  - Inspection methods unchanged
  - Additional guidance in the safety conscious work environment (SCWE) area
  - Provides additional NRC assessment tools
- What does it mean to the Industry?
  - Assessment process more predictable
  - Improved ability to track and trend

# Cross-Cutting Data

|                                       | CY04  | CY05  | CY06 |
|---------------------------------------|-------|-------|------|
| % of Findings w/cross-cutting aspects | 59%   | 69%   | 67%  |
| % w/HP aspects                        | 29%   | 36%   | 38%  |
| % w/PI&R aspects                      | 30%   | 33%   | 29%  |
| % w/SCWE aspects                      | 0%    | 2 IF  | 0%   |
| # of Sites w/SCCIs (EOC/MC)           | 14/14 | 15/17 | 10/8 |

## Ongoing Activities

- Monthly ROP Public Meetings
- Formation of NRC Safety Culture Focus Team
- Formation of SCWE Finding Review Team
- Evaluation of cross-cutting issues
- 18-month implementation period