

Michael Cullingford

Dr. Cullingford is the Special Assistant for Technical Policy and International Liaison in the Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation (NRR). He has held this position since June 1990.

He coordinates safety information exchanges with regulators of France, United Kingdom, Sweden, Finland, Japan, Switzerland, Spain, Belgium, China, Korea, Germany, Netherlands and Canada. He coordinates NRR activities with OECD's NEA and with the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) and serves on the NEA Committee on Nuclear Regulatory Activities.

From 1981 to 1990, he was a senior officer with the IAEA where he initiated the Agency's risk assessment program assisting Member States to perform, peer review and utilize, in safety decisions, probabilistic safety assessment (PSA) for operating nuclear power plants. Developed and initiated programs of independent peer reviews of PSA studies (IPERS/IPSARTS program). Led a task group of safety and safeguards experts to explore the applicability of PSA to detection of diversion of spent nuclear fuel from NPPs.

From 1975 to 1981, he was a Senior Risk Assessment Engineer with the NRC Reactor Safety Study (WASH-1400) group. Later responsible for application of risk methodology for all areas of the nuclear fuel cycle and for research into human factors related to PSA. As a part-time faculty member of George Washington University, taught Nuclear Reactor Theory, Safety Analyses and Risk Assessment.

From 1972 to 1975, he was Manager, Reactor Systems, at Singer Simulation Products, where he supervised the development of real time simulation models for Core Physics, Thermal Hydraulics and BWR Safety Systems for both normal and accident conditions.

Dr. Cullingford received a B.S. in Electrical Engineering in 1961 from the University of Durham (U.K.), a M.S. in Electrical Engineering in 1964 from the University of Newcastle (U.K.), and a Ph.D. in Nuclear Engineering in 1972 from North Carolina State University. He was Education Chairman (1978), Treasurer (1979), and Chairman (1980) of the Washington, D.C. Section of the American Nuclear Society. Also a Council Member of the Society for Risk Analysis and a Member of the American Association for Advancement of Science.