

RIC 2013 Topical Report Program: Highlights and Updates

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NRR Topical Report Program

- Provides technical and regulatory review of nuclear power plant safety topics for use by multiple licensees
- Objectives: Improve efficiency of licensing processes and implement safety improvements
- Implemented by reference in specific licensing actions or by industry adoption of safety improvements

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Topical Report Review Process

- Very similar to License Amendment Request (LAR) review process (LIC-101)
 - Pre-submittal meetings
 - Acceptance Review – consistent with licensing process (LIC-109)
 - Proprietary information withholding per 10 CFR 2.390
 - Requests for Additional Information
 - Safety Evaluation
- Same technical review staff as for LARs and other licensing actions leads to consistency of reviews
- Other offices use a similar process

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Topical Report Safety Evaluations

- Provide the technical, safety, and regulatory bases for the NRC staff's decision
- Specify who can reference the topical report
- Include "Limitations and Conditions"
- Apply the same level of technical scrutiny as for other licensing reviews

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Topical Report Reviews

- Typically have 50 – 60 under review
- Complete ~25 reviews per year
- Prioritization of reviews:
 - Safety significance
 - Industry applicability
 - Implementation certainty
 - Review progress
 - Management discretion

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Recent Program Updates

- Prioritization - re-evaluate quarterly
- Congressional Review Act applicability
- Verification of approved ("-A") topical reports
- Referencing of approved topical reports

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Summary

- Topical report objectives:
 - Efficiency in licensing and reviews
 - Improvements in safety
- Technical scrutiny and regulatory review protects public health and safety
- Process improvements continue

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