Regulatory Findings: Enhancing the Training of Reactor Technical Reviewers

Technical and training staff has developed and now teach a new **Fundamentals of Reactor Licensing Workshop for Technical Reviewers**.

The course focuses on reviewers' responsibility to make, explain, and defend a regulatory finding.

What's in It for Me?

- Save time and effort in performing qualification activities with the same or better outcome
- Improve technical and regulatory skill
- Enhance consistency of regulatory knowledge across offices

Engaging Exercises:

- Creating an agency and its mission and functions
- Designing the headlight system of a car
- Understanding do's and don'ts of requests for additional information
- Writing safety evaluations
- Assessing the significance of operational event
- Proofreading a press release

Course Offerings:

This course is broken down into two parts:

- Part 1: Making Licensing Decisions (Course ID_205144)
- Part 2: Ensuring Continued Safety (Course ID_121147)

Each part is 2 days.

Modules:

Making Your Finding

- Audits & Information Needs
- Requests for Additional Information
- Northeast Blackout Scenario
- Event Response & Restart
- Notice of Enforcement Discretion

Explaining Your Finding

- Safety Evaluations
- Developing Key Messages
- Public Involvement & Stakeholder Interaction
- Briefings & Press Release
- Documenting Decisions
- Coordination within the NRC
- Backfits, Orders, and Generic Communications
- Diversity of Opinions

Defending Your Finding

- Advisory Committee on Reactor Safeguards
- Hearings

Regulatory Authority and Scope

- Safety Concerns
- Regulatory Authority & Scope
- Mission Statement & Functions

Implementation of Authority

- Hierarchy of Regulations and Guidance
- Separating Regulations and Guidance
- Defining "Safe Enough"
- Licensing Concepts

Regulatory Documentation

- Licensing and Design Basis
- Developing Licensing Basis

Being a Regulator

- Role of the Reviewer

Regulatory Findings

▶ A regulatory finding is a determination by the technical reviewer that a criterion specified in a regulation is met (or not met) based on the supporting evidence.

Make → Explain → Defend

Workshop Oriented:

- Engaging group discussions
- Hands-on, creative and practical exercises
- Interaction between experienced and new reviewers

Northeast Blackout Event:

- NRC and industry response to major event
- Technical reviewer roles during an operational event
- Notice of enforcement discretion
- Restart decisions

Simple Examples Involving Automobile Safety:

Explore the foundation of an agency and the resolution of safety concerns raised by the introduction of "horseless carriages."

- Hierarchy of regulations and guidance
- Safety concerns
- Regulatory authority & scope
- Mission statement & functions
- Defining "safe enough"