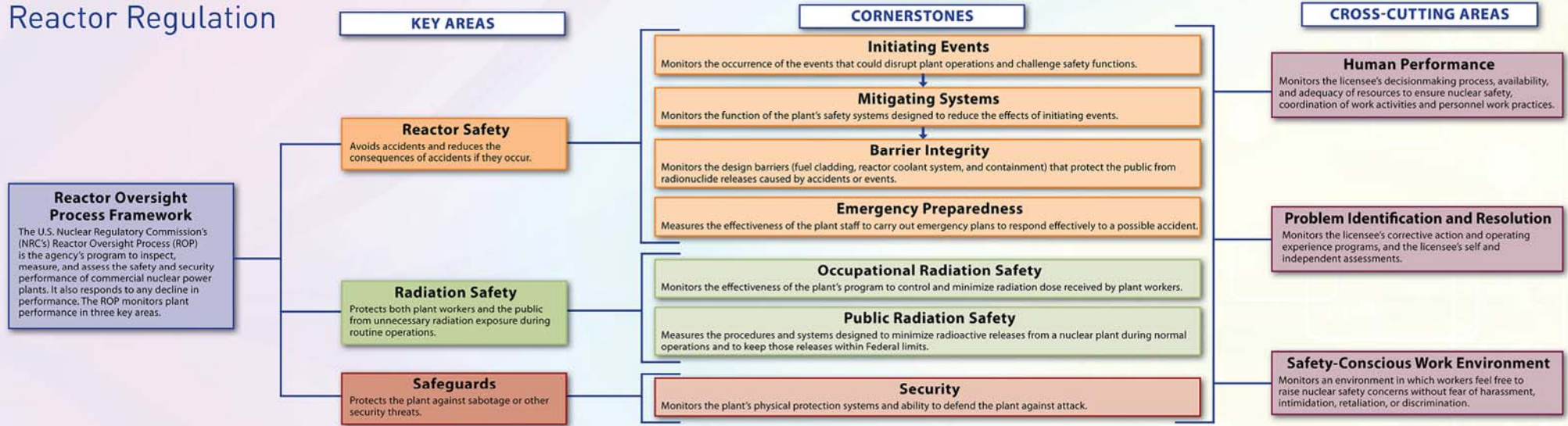




Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

Reactor Oversight Process



Plant Assessment

The NRC's plant evaluations are based on two distinct inputs:

- Findings from the NRC's inspection program
- Performance indicators (PIs) reported by the licensee

The NRC gives both PIs and inspection findings a color designation based on their safety significance.

- Green:** very low safety significance (for findings), expected performance (for PIs)
- White:** low-to-moderate safety significance
- Yellow:** substantial safety significance
- Red:** high safety significance



NRC Response to Plant Performance

The NRC evaluates plant performance through performance indicators and NRC inspection findings to determine what action, if any, the NRC will take if there are signs of declining performance. This approach is defined by the ROP's Action Matrix. The Action Matrix provides consistent, predictable, and understandable agency responses to licensee performance.



Communications

The NRC assesses plant performance continuously and communicates assessment information through the performance summary public Web site for each plant. Information available through the plant's Web site includes the following:

- Quarterly performance indicator data
- Significant inspection findings
- Inspection reports
- Assessment letters



Recent ROP Activities

Risk-informed Framework for New Reactors – developing recommendations for appropriate revisions to the significance determination process, performance indicators, and baseline inspection program to accommodate the AP1000.

Notable ROP Changes

- **Assessment Program** – implementing elements of the assessment program to better align NRC response to licensee performance.
- **Baseline Inspection Program** – improving the engineering inspection procedures to achieve better efficiency and effectiveness.
- **Communications** – overhaul of ROP website as well as revising and developing communication products for public outreach about the ROP.
- **Self-Assessment Program** – fully implementing the revised self-assessment process, including the introduction of peer reviews and focused assessments.
- **Significance Determination Process** – implementing recommendations to improve timeliness and efficient use of resources in risk-informed decision-making.

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