



**RIC 2020**

U.S. NRC  
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# Building a Smarter Fuel Cycle Facility Licensing Program

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# Outline

- Working Group (WG) Purpose and Task
  - Progress Summary
  - Next Steps
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## WG Purpose and Task

Conduct a holistic assessment of the fuel cycle licensing program to improve effectiveness and efficiency:

- Look for areas of transformation and innovation.
  - Adhere to the NRC Principles of Good Regulation.
  - Engage a broad range of stakeholders.
  - Collect and develop suggestions.
  - Assess the licensing process and guidance.
  - Consider processes and guidance from other divisions/offices.
  - Evaluate suggestions.
  - Develop WG report to Division management with conclusions and recommendations.
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## Summary to Date

Collected 32 Comments → 37 Suggestions

Three primary focus areas:

- Guidance and tool development
  - Planning and processing
  - Performance and documentation
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## Methods

- Suggestions from industry, WG members, and other NRC staff
  - Letters, public meetings, and staff internal meetings and interactions
  - Many interrelated suggestions
  - Recommendations drafted to address individual suggestions
  - Recommendation table included as an attachment to the WG report
  - Use of a three-tier process to prioritize suggestions
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## Progress to Date

- Completed draft report
    - Developed draft WG report
    - Held public teleconference to obtain feedback on draft
  - Finalizing report for issuance
  - Developing implementation recommendations
    - Multiple suggestions may be addressed by a coordinated action
  - Identifying resource considerations
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## Example of Coordinated Action

- Numerous suggestions address the request for additional information (RAI) process:
    - Some are already NRC practices not in publicly available documentation
    - Some relate to improving aspects of the process
  - Eight suggestions could be addressed by developing and making publicly available a business line instruction on the RAI process.
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## Next Steps

### March 2020

- Finalize the WG report
- Finalize implementation recommendations

### April 2020

- Determine recommendations to implement
  - Develop and enact an implementation plan
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