



#NRCRIC2020

Near Death: The Birth of the Reactor Oversight Process

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NRC Historian

RIC 2020

United States Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Protecting People and the Environment

#NRCRIC2020

A BRIGHTER TOMORROW

FULFILLING THE PROMISE OF NUCLEAR ENERGY

SENATOR PETE V. DOMENICI

Sen. Pete Domenici

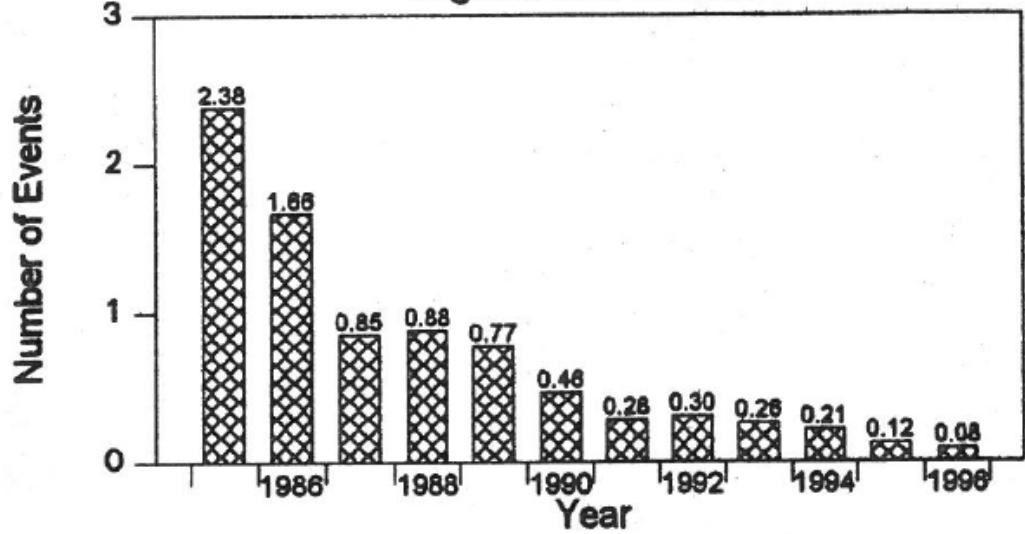
Chairman Shirley Jackson

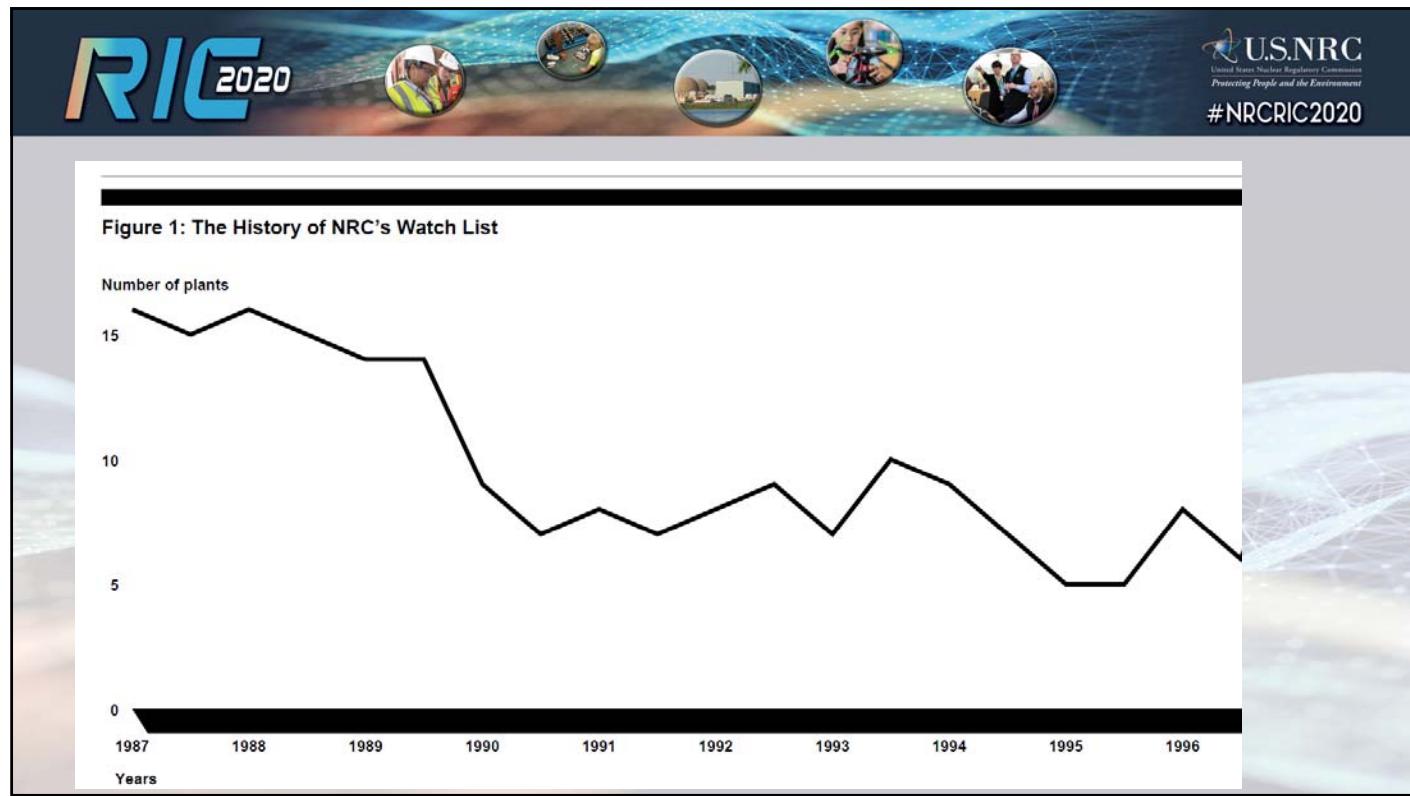
The banner features the text "RIC 2020" in large blue letters on the left, followed by five circular icons representing different aspects of nuclear safety and oversight. On the right, the U.S. NRC logo is displayed with the text "U.S. NRC" and "United States Nuclear Regulatory Commission" below it, along with the tagline "Protecting People and the Environment". The hashtag "#NRCRIC2020" is also present.

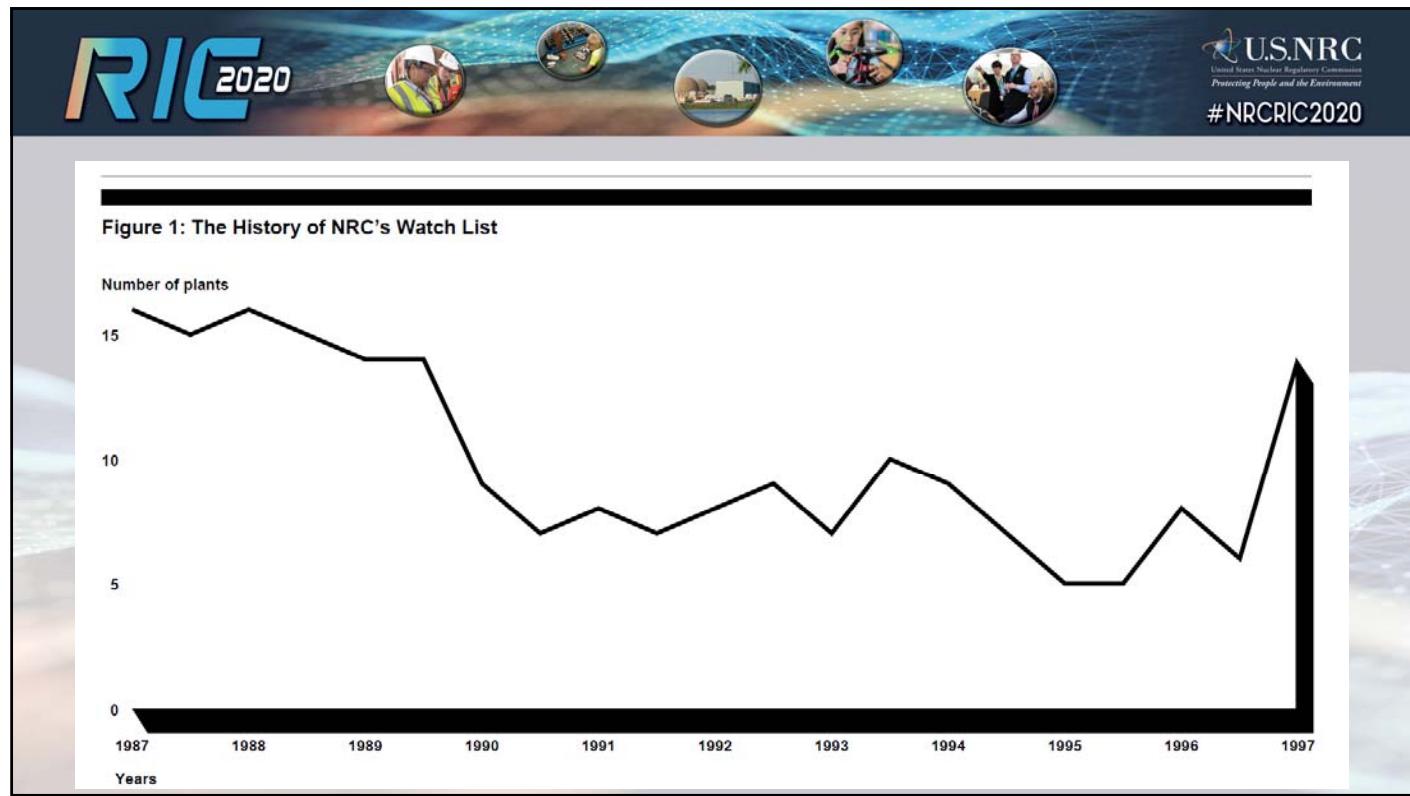
- Three Mile Island and Oversight
 - Resident Inspector Program
 - Systematic Assessment of Licensee Performance (SALP)
- Davis-Besse (1985): Assessing Safety Culture?
 - “Wake Me If It’s a Meltdown”: Peach Bottom and Browns Ferry
 - Senior Management Meetings
 - The Watch List
 - Diagnostic Evaluation Teams



Significant Events









The Adversarial Relationship

- “We don’t trust you. You don’t trust us”
- Towers Perrin Report (1994): SALP’s “subjective” assessments
- Deregulation

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• Toward a New Oversight Process

- Fleetwide Performance
- Maintenance Rule—Performance Based, Risk “Based”
- Millstone and Maine Yankee

TIME

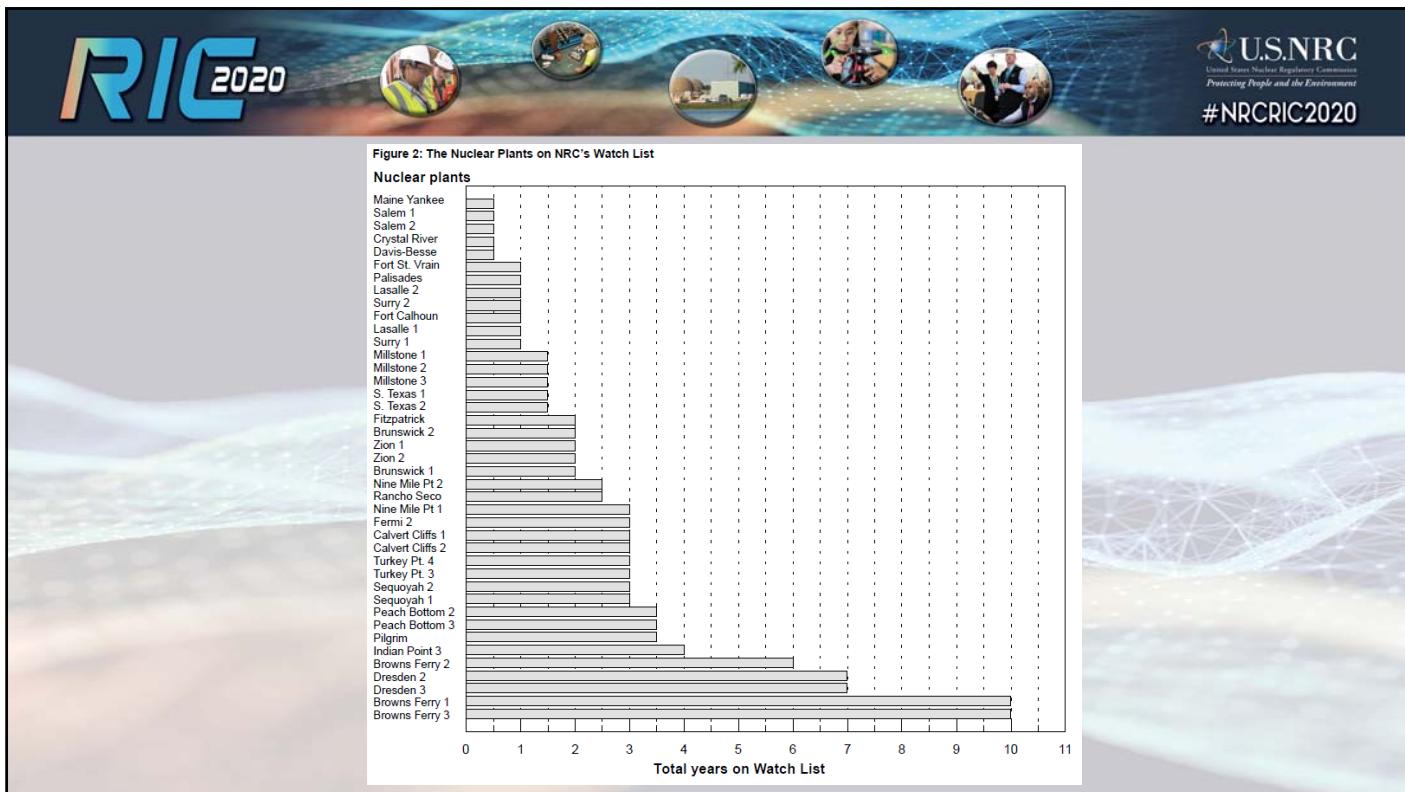
THE CASE AGAINST BUCHANAN

SPECIAL INVESTIGATION

BLOWING THE WHISTLE ON NUCLEAR SAFETY

How a showdown at a power plant exposed the federal government's failure to enforce its own rules

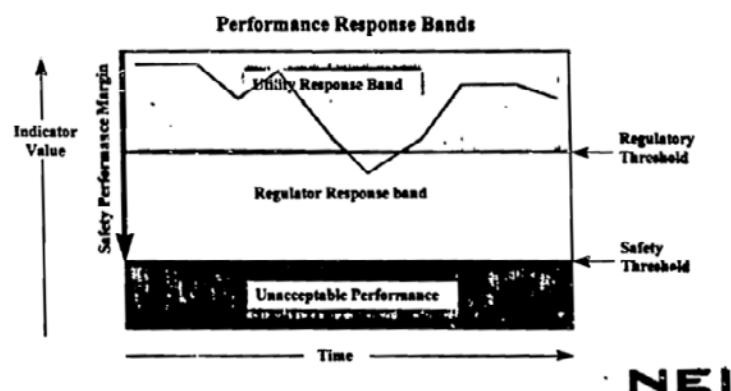
George Gallo at Millstone in Connecticut





Nuclear Energy Institute's Reactor Oversight Process Proposal (July 1998)

A NEW REGULATORY OVERSIGHT PROCESS *Risk-Informed, Performance Based Assessment, Inspection and Enforcement*

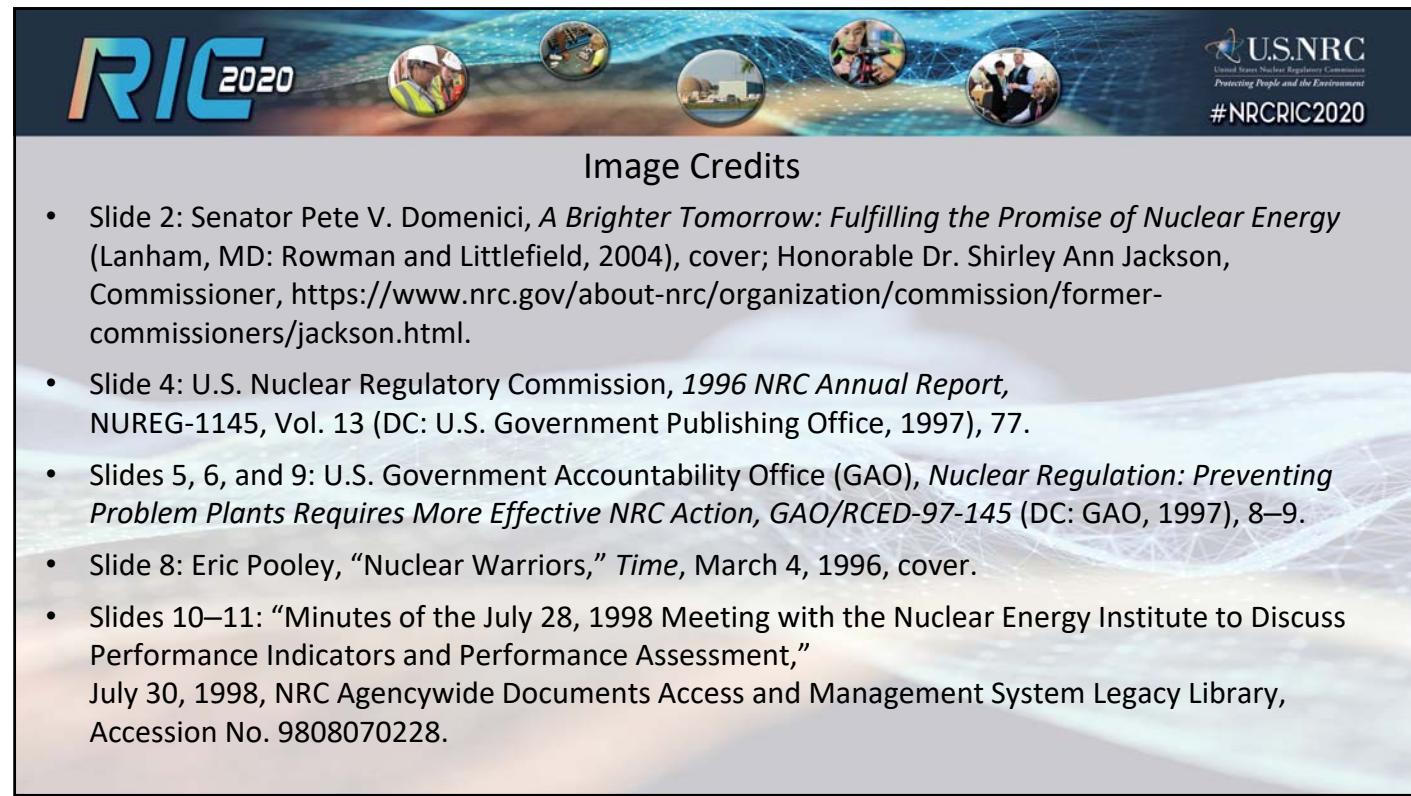




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Safety Performance Assessment Indicators

TIER	PERFORMANCE EXPECTATIONS	SAFETY PERFORMANCE INDICATORS								
		REACTOR COOLANT SYSTEM ACTIVITY	REACTOR COOLANT SYSTEM BOUNDARY	CONTAINMENT INTEGRITY	TOTAL SCREAMS	SAFETY SYSTEM ACTUATIONS	SHUTDOWN OPERATING MARGIN	OPERATING TRANSIENTS > 15%		
TIER I PUBLIC HEALTH AND SAFETY	BARRIER INTEGRITY	REACTOR COOLANT SYSTEM ACTIVITY		REACTOR COOLANT SYSTEM BOUNDARY	CONTAINMENT INTEGRITY					
TIER II MARGIN TO SAFETY	OPERATING CHALLENGES	TOTAL SCREAMS		MITIGATION CAPABILITY	SAFETY SYSTEM PERFORMANCE INDICATOR		MAINTENANCE RULE HIGH RISK SIGNIFICANT SSC PERFORMANCE			
TIER III OVERALL PLANT PERFORMANCE	PLANT PERFORMANCE TREND									



The banner features the RIC 2020 logo on the left, followed by five circular icons representing different nuclear industry professionals or activities. On the right is the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission logo with the text "U.S. NRC" and "Protecting People and the Environment", and the hashtag "#NRCRIC2020".

Image Credits

- Slide 2: Senator Pete V. Domenici, *A Brighter Tomorrow: Fulfilling the Promise of Nuclear Energy* (Lanham, MD: Rowman and Littlefield, 2004), cover; Honorable Dr. Shirley Ann Jackson, Commissioner, <https://www.nrc.gov/about-nrc/organization/commission/former-commissioners/jackson.html>.
- Slide 4: U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission, *1996 NRC Annual Report*, NUREG-1145, Vol. 13 (DC: U.S. Government Publishing Office, 1997), 77.
- Slides 5, 6, and 9: U.S. Government Accountability Office (GAO), *Nuclear Regulation: Preventing Problem Plants Requires More Effective NRC Action*, GAO/RCED-97-145 (DC: GAO, 1997), 8–9.
- Slide 8: Eric Pooley, “Nuclear Warriors,” *Time*, March 4, 1996, cover.
- Slides 10–11: “Minutes of the July 28, 1998 Meeting with the Nuclear Energy Institute to Discuss Performance Indicators and Performance Assessment,” July 30, 1998, NRC Agencywide Documents Access and Management System Legacy Library, Accession No. 9808070228.