



BRIEFING ON RESEARCH AND TEST REACTOR (RTR) CHALLENGES

Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation
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INTRODUCTION

- **Introduction**
 - Bill Borchardt, Executive Director for Operations
- **Agenda**
 - Eric Leeds, Director, Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation
- **Contributing Causes**
 - Tom Blount, Deputy Director, Division of Policy and Rulemaking, NRR
- **RTR License Renewal Streamlining**
 - Kathryn Brock, Chief, Research and Test Reactors Branch A, NRR

AGENDA

- Overview
- Contributing Causes
- Objective of the Process Improvement
 - Benefits to be achieved
 - Actions to be taken

Contributing Causes

- 32 Research and Test Reactors (RTR)
- Backlog of 21 facilities
- Contributing Causes
 - Limited Licensee resources
 - Limited NRC Staff resources
 - Knowledge Management Issues

RTR License Renewal Streamlining

- Process Improvement Objectives
- Benefits to be Realized
- Short-Term Plan
- Challenges
- Long-Term Plan

Process Improvement Objectives

- Eliminate license renewal backlog by end of FY10
 - Maintain focus on Safety & Security
- Establish a new streamlined regulatory framework by 2014
- Reduce Unnecessary Regulatory Burden

Benefits to be Realized

- Enhanced Focus on Safety / Security
- Improve Efficiency and Effectiveness
- Increased Stakeholder involvement

Short-Term Plan

- License Renewal Streamlining
 - Recent staff actions
 - Graded Approach – 2MWt
 - Resource evaluation
 - Work Breakdown
 - ISG Development
 - Primary Review Areas
 - Secondary Review Areas

INVENTORY

Completed	<u>Facility</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Power</u>
	Oregon State University	9/2/2008	1.1 MW
	University of Missouri, ROLLA	3/30/2009	200 KW
	National Institute of Standards & Technology	7/2/2009	20MW

≥ 2MWt	<u>Facility</u>	<u>Application</u>	<u>Power</u>
	Rhode Island Atomic Energy Commission	5/3/2004	2 MW
	Massachusetts Institute Technology	7/8/1999	6 MW
	University of Missouri -Columbia	8/31/2006	10 MW

< 2 MWt	<u>Facility</u>	<u>Application</u>	<u>Power</u>
	<i>All Remaining Backlog Facilities (17)</i>	7/22/1997 to 7/7/2008	5 W to 1.1 MW

Challenges

- Staffing
- Emergent work
- Deferred work
- Validity of Assumptions

Long-Term Plan

- Described in SECY-09-0095
- Rulemaking
 - Transition ISG process into NUREG
- Stakeholder involvement
- Sustainability