



# Office of Federal and State Materials and Environmental Management Programs

*Safety and Security in the Beneficial Applications  
of Nuclear Materials*

## U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission Radiation Safety Standards

*Institute of Medicine  
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# NRC's Mission

**To license and regulate the Nation's civilian use of byproduct, source, and special nuclear materials to ensure adequate protection of public health and safety, promote the common defense and security, and protect the environment.**



# NRC's Rulemaking Process

- Identify need for rulemaking
- Regulatory Basis
  - Foundation of effective regulations
  - Rulemaking does not start without Regulatory Basis
  - Early stakeholder involvement
- Proposed Rule
  - Goes out for public comment
  - Contains draft rule text
- Final Rule
  - Contains responses to public comments
  - Contains final rule text

# Revisions to Radiation Protection Regulations

- International Commission on Radiological Protection (ICRP) revised recommendations announced in December, 2007
- NRC staff analysis indicated areas warranting consideration for revisions – SECY-08-0197, December, 2008
- Commission approved staff recommendation to engage stakeholders and initiate development of technical basis materials on April 2, 2009

# Revisions to Radiation Protection Regulations

- Staff Recommendations – SECY-12-0064, April 25, 2012
- The Commission issued the Staff Requirements Memorandum (SRM) to the staff on Dec. 17, 2012
- The Commission approved in part, and disapproved in part, the staff's recommendation from SECY-12-0064

# **SRM-SECY-12-0064**

## **Recommendations for Policy and Technical Direction to Revise Part 20**

- Dose calculation methodology and terminology
- Occupational dose limits, embryo/fetus dose limit, lens of the eye dose limit
- Units of radiation exposure and dose (SI and US)
- ALARA Planning (optimization of radiation protection)

# Next Steps

- The staff will be preparing for extensive engagement with Federal Agencies (e.g., DOE, EPA, FEMA, and OSHA), States, the wide range of licensee stakeholders under the jurisdiction of the NRC, and with public stakeholders on each of the topics.
- The staff will develop regulatory basis using Commission direction for each policy issue.
- The regulatory basis will be provided to the Commission as a voting matter.
- The tentative date for development of the regulatory basis is December, 2015.

# Why Change the Radiation Protection Regulations?

- Coherence in the basis of NRC regulations
- Provide consistency with the current estimates of attributed radiation risk
- Increase alignment with international recommendations and the regulatory practices of our international counterparts



# Questions? Questions?

