

Introduction for Joint Risk-Informed Steering Committee
February 7, 2014

- As stated in the Commission Probabilistic Risk Assessment (PRA) Policy Statement, Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) supports the expanded use of PRA as a tool for regulatory decision making. However we understand that advancement of PRA requires successfully addressing a number of policy and technical issues. The NRC Risk-Informed Steering Committee (RISC) will provide strategic direction and guidance to the NRC staff for the purpose of resolving these issues. Following are some examples of the types of questions/issues that the RISC might consider:
 - Is the Commission PRA Policy Statement being implemented as envisioned?
 - What is the status of the Phased Approach to PRA Quality and what, if any, changes need to be made to facilitate this vision for the future?
 - What are the areas where new or improved methods are needed to reduce unnecessary conservatism (i.e., increase realism) and what are the mechanisms/means for accomplishing this?
 - Are there additional steps that need to be taken to develop a robust regulatory process that can readily accommodate decision-making under uncertainty?
 - What are the needs relative to addressing uncertainties in application of PRA across all hazards, including priorities for obtaining additional data through testing and incorporation of operation experience?
 - How should the NRC communicate aggregate risk (e.g., across all initiators) with appropriate consideration of uncertainties?
 - Are there areas that should be more risk-informed (e.g., BTP 8-8)?
- With regard to interaction with external stakeholders the NRC RISC objectives are as follows:
 - Engage interested stakeholders and listen to stakeholder concerns relative to the use of PRA to support regulatory decision-making.
 - Communicate NRC actions with regard to advancing risk-informed decision making.
 - Initiate and maintain a dialog on industry actions necessary to achieve the vision for future use of PRA to support regulatory decisions.
- The RISC is comprised of representatives from the following NRC organizations:
 - NRO Deputy Office Director
 - RES Deputy Office Director
 - NRR Deputy Office Director for Engineering and Corporate Support
 - The Chair of the Committee is the Director of NRR.