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# Task Interface Agreement (TIA) Program Revitalization Status

NRC Presentation

Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation (NRR)

Category 2 Public Meeting

March 19, 2019



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# NRC TIA Revitalization Project

## Presentation Agenda

- Opening Remarks.....Kathryn Brock, Deputy Director, NRR,  
Division of Operating Reactor Licensing (DORL)
- Project Overview.....Douglas Broaddus, Branch Chief, NRR, DORL
- Project Status.....Booma Venkataraman, Project Manager,  
NRR, DORL

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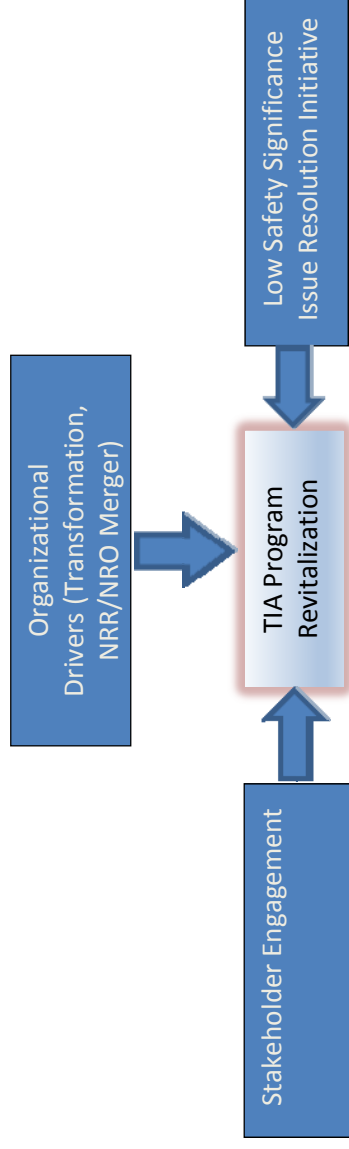
# Begin with the end in mind

## Key Messages

- The TIA revitalization effort is intended to result in an efficient process that focuses resources on matters that are most important to safety, effectively utilizes modern technology, and meets the needs of stakeholders.
- Related to this effort is NRR's focus area of dispositioning issues of low safety significance efficiently.
- The goal is to provide a proposed updated office instruction by mid-2019.
- The project is being executed by an inclusive agency group with industry inputs.

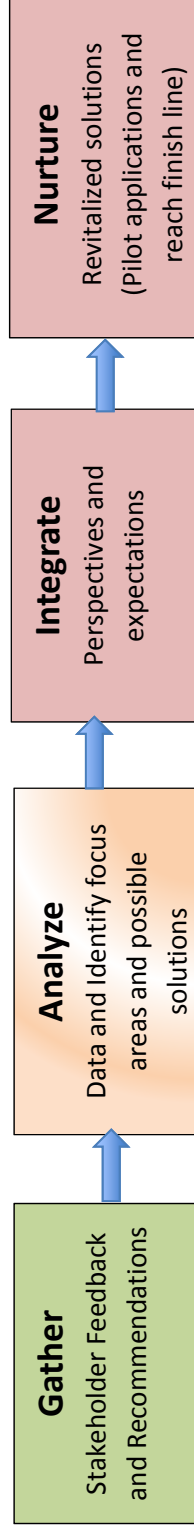
# TIA Program Revitalization

## Key Drivers



Transformational Drivers: Risk-informing, Modernized decisionmaking

## Project Execution Method



Goal: To provide a proposed revised office procedure in 6 months

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# Working Group (WG) Composition and Interfaces

## WG Organizations

- Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation (NRR)
- Division of Operating Reactor Licensing (DORL)
  - Division of Risk Assessment (DRA)
  - Division of Safety Systems (DSS)
  - Division of Engineering (DE)
  - Division of Inspection and Regional Support (DIRS)
  - Division of Licensing Projects (DLP)

## Regions

- Region 1
- Region 2
- Region 3
- Region 4

Office of New Reactors (NRO)

Office of the General Counsel (OGC)

Office of Enforcement (OE)

## WG Interfaces

- Low Safety Significance Issue Resolution (LSSIR) Working Group
- Office of New Reactors (NRR/NRO merger considerations for NRO process needs)
- Office of Nuclear Material Safety and Safeguards (Office best practices)

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## WG Tasks

### **Task 1: Screening of Questions at the TIA Front-End**

- Changes to criteria when TIA will be used or not used (e.g., threshold for a formal TIA)
- Effective hand-offs or exit to other processes (e.g., exit to Backfits)
- Screening for safety significance (overlap with LSSIR WG)

### **Task 2: Enhancement of the TIA Processes**

- Revamp of informal and formal processes to enhance timeliness using internal and external stakeholder feedback, integrating office best practices and adding modernized tools.

### **Supporting Tasks**

- Industry Engagement
- Gather Regional Perspectives
- Gather Office Best practices and NRO needs
- Modernized tools and application to the enhancement



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## Stakeholder Feedback and Other Inputs

- TIA Operating experience
- Agency surveys: to solicit feedback from past users
- Regional perspectives (biggest customer)
- Industry insights
- Office Best Practices

Driver: Holistically redesign the program with fresh stakeholder dialogue to fulfil the agency mission and the principles of good regulation.



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## Industry Feedback to Enhance the TIA Program\*

- Increase Process Rigidity
- Greater Emphasis on Backfit
- Establish Exit Criteria for Low Safety Significance Issue Resolution
- Include an Appeal Process
- Eliminate Pre-decisional Consideration

\*- Inputs received in public meeting on Feb. 21, 2019





## Revitalization Path Forward

- Updated proposed guidance and reach finish line with:
  - ✓ Stakeholder feedback and analysis
  - ✓ Consideration of NRO needs
  - ✓ Integrated perspectives
  - ✓ Internal alignment
  - ✓ Pilot applications



## Summary

**Envisioning: A holistic program to serve stakeholder needs.**

- To focus resources on the most safety-significant inquiries (Mission)
- Be consistent with the principles of good regulation (Vision)
- With effective modernized portals for interface and decisionmaking

Reference: Current TIA Office Procedure: NRR COM-106  
(ADAMS Accession No.: ML15219A174)





Thank You