

Building a Smarter Fuel Cycle Facility Licensing Program

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Outline

- Reminder of Working Group Purpose & Task
- Summarize Progress & Recent Changes
- Identify Next Steps
- Solicit Additional Input & Feedback

Working Group (WG) Purpose/Task

Conduct holistic assessment of Fuel Cycle licensing program to improve effectiveness & efficiency

- Look for areas of transformation and innovation
- Adhere to the NRC Principles of Good Regulations
- Engage a broad range of external & internal stakeholders
- Assess licensing process & guidance
- Consider processes & guidance from other divisions/offices
- Collect & develop suggestions
- Evaluate suggestions
- Develop WG report to Division management with conclusions and recommendations

Summarize Progress

Currently Compiled 32 Suggestions

- Suggestions from industry, working group members, and other NRC staff
 - Letters, public meetings, staff internal meetings and interactions
- Many suggestions are interrelated
- Drafted proposed resolutions for suggestions
 - Suggestion/Resolution table will be included as attachment to working group report

Summarize Progress

Draft Report Under Development

- Suggestions grouped into 5 areas
 - Improve Communication/Openness
 - Increase Knowledge/Awareness
 - Re-Enforce Good Practices
 - Improve Process/Metrics
 - Enhance Review Efficiency/Effectiveness
- General considerations going forward

Grouping Examples

Communication/Openness (6)

- 1 Solicit input from each licensee regarding milestones that should be established
- 2 Share standard metrics along with hour estimates in acceptance letter

Knowledge/Awareness (6)

- 24 Develop “licensing manual” to catalogue licensing guidance
- 26 Apply lessons learned to future, new types of applications

Good Practices (5)

- 8 RAIs should have clear regulatory bases – use uniform template
- 21 Document scope and focus of licensing review in SER

Process/Metrics (12)

- 5 Combine multiple steps of licensing process for simple reviews
- 22 Use electronic interface with licensee for RAIs, dashboards, etc.

Efficiency/Effectiveness (7)

- 7 Optimize review (and RAI) effort via timing of site visits
- 13 Maintain quality and efficiency of reviews despite staff and/or management turnover

Additional Consideration

October merger of FCSE and DSFM into new Division of Fuel Management (DFM)

- Suggestion added to ensure all activities are coordinated between these business lines
 - Development of business line instruction for RAIs
- Developing integrated licensing guidance for both business lines
 - Will address/prioritize working group recommendations
 - Will incorporate best practices

Next Steps

End of November

- Complete Working Draft Report for Internal Review

December

- Make Draft Report Publicly Available
- Hold Public Meeting on Draft Report Recommendations
- Finalize Report

March 2020

- Move Forward on Approved Actions from Division Integration Team

End of 2020

- Implement Approved Actions

Additional Input & Feedback

