

Industry Initiatives

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National Radiological Emergency Preparedness Conference

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**NUCLEAR
ENERGY
INSTITUTE**

Nuclear Energy Institute

- **The Washington, D.C. policy organization of the nuclear energy industry**
- **NEI's MISSION**
 - **To create favorable U.S. Energy policy for the continued safe use of nuclear energy**

NEI's PURPOSE

- **Provide unified policy direction on regulation and legislation**
- **Represent nuclear industry before congress, executive agencies, federal regulatory bodies, and state policy forums**
- **Disseminate positive information about nuclear energy to policy-makers and the public**

Nuclear Energy Institute Emergency Preparedness Essential Issue

- **Emergency preparedness involves technical or operational issues of significance that can have political and financial impacts on all, or most of the industry**

Nuclear Energy Institute Outreach

- **Communications – industry, media, opinion leaders and the public**
- **Media Relations – proactive national news media program**
- **Member Communications – works with industry communicators**

Nuclear Energy Institute Outreach

- **NEI Public Web Page**
 - <http://www.nei.org>
- **Essential Issue Fact Sheets**
- **Essential Issue Policy Briefs**

Community Relations and Incident Response

- **Develop systematic processes for forging and sustaining community relationships**
 - public confidence in the nuclear organization;
 - the nuclear organization as a credible and timely source of information;
 - prompt response to an incident of public interest so there is public understanding; and
 - context for consequences of incidents relative to public health and safety significance.

NEI Emergency Response Plan

- **Provide accurate and timely information on the nuclear energy industry to members, policymakers, the news media and the public**
- **Serve as a unified industry voice before the U.S. Congress, Executive Branch agencies, federal regulators, the media, and international organizations and venues**

Activation of NEI's Plan

- **Requires prompt notification of an event of public interest or a classified unusual event by the plant or company employee responsible for public communications**
- **Plant control room determines classification**
- **The plant's public information officer would continue to keep NEI abreast of developments**

Implementation

- **NEI recommends that the site PIO make notification by email (eplan@nei.org) to NEI within 30 minutes of an event of public interest at your facility. Examples of the types of events include but are not limited to:**
 - **Classified notice of unusual event,**
 - **Unintended releases of chemical or other materials**
 - **Fire at the site**
 - **Activist group protest**
 - **Exposure to an individual to radiation in excess of regulatory limits**
 - **Accidents involving transport of radioactive material to or from the plant site**
 - **An event near site that could be mistakenly attributed to the plant**

Requested Information

- **Provide the following information if available:**
 - **Brief description of what happened**
 - **Status of Reactors (Normal operation/Abnormal Operation)**
 - **Radiological releases normal/accident, containment integrity**
 - **Injuries**
 - **State/local officials notified**
 - **Security concerns**

Real Time Emergency Response

- **Nuclear Plant Notification Of Unusual Event (NOUE)
RCS leakage to an unidentified location**
- **THIS ARTICLE APPEARED IN NUMEROUS MEDIA
OUTLETS.**

WASHINGTON, Nov. 21 — In the first nuclear-related evacuation since the Three Mile Island accident of 1979, a school district sent all 1,800 pupils home on Tuesday morning because operators at a nearby nuclear reactor believed they might have had a leak of radioactive cooling water inside the plant.

Real Time Emergency Response

- **School Supt. cancels school**
- **County contacts Media outlets to announce school closure (refers to plant event)**
- **Media outlets reports schools are evacuated due to plant event**

Real Time Emergency Response

- **Lessons Learned**

- **There needs to be a better understanding of a NOUE is, and that no actions that would impact the public are required**

Commission Directive

Realistic Exercises

Real Responses

- **The staff should coordinate with DHS to develop emergency planning exercise scenarios**
 - **avoid anticipatory responses associated with preconditioning of participants**
 - **incorporate a wide spectrum of releases (ranging from little or no release to a large release)**
 - **including security-based events**
 - **scenarios should emphasize the expected interfaces and coordination between key decision-makers based on realistic postulated events**
 - **identify experiences of preconditioning or “negative training”**

Exercises, Training, Responses

- **EP exercises should differ from routine radiological exercises**
- **The focus should not mandate response to a radiological release**
- **Those aspects are adequately covered in routine biennial exercises and would be addressed twice during the six year evaluated exercise period**

Reasonable Assurance

- **Protective measures can be taken to protect the health and safety of the surrounding communities**
 - **Annual Review**
 - **Detail Review of State and Local Plans**
 - **Successful Exercise Demonstration**

NRC Rulemaking

- **NRC Bulletin 2005-02**
- **Security – Based Drills/Exercises**
- **EALs for Security Based Events**
- **ANS Backup means**
- **Evacuation Time Estimates**
- **Emergency Classification Timeless**
- **50.54(q)**
- **Common EOF**
- **Shift Staffing**
- **Performance Based Regulations**

Industry Views

Industry applauds the NRC's process and supports many of the staff proposals related to security-based changes and clarification of EP process.

Industry Views NRC-DHS Interactions

- ***The industry urges the NRC to engage the Department of Homeland Security and the Federal Emergency Management Agency to assure consistent implementation of realistic exercises and security-based emergency preparedness guidelines***

Security – Based Drills/Exercises

- **Industry initiative for EP/Security drills is underway – Phase III, lessons learned**
- **Acceptance of the industry initiative depends on FEMA alignment and acceptance with the initiative and the NRC SRM on realistic exercises**

ANS Technologies

- **SECY recommends amending regulations to require a compensatory means to notify the public if the primary system is unavailable**
 - Replaces concept of requiring backup power to sirens
 - Goal is to use more modern communications technologies
- **Industry Perspective**
 - *NRC should take into account existing hardware/ software systems rather than developing a nuclear specific system*

Evacuation Time Estimates

- **SECY recommends rulemaking to develop new criteria for updating ETEs, stating that the current requirements are ambiguous**
- **SECY suggests factors such as: decennial census data; EPZ population changes > 10%; and major changes to evacuation route roadway networks and land use changes**
- **Industry Perspective**
 - *Criteria requiring more frequent updates must be established to address the actual need for change*

Performance Based Regulations

- **SECY proposes a new performance-based regulatory framework that could be adopted in lieu of existing EP regulations**
 - **Would not change certain areas, such as EPZ, corrective actions, compliance with EAL standards**
 - **Would be performance-based and include Performance Indicators**
- **Industry Perspective**
 - *We support dialogue on a more risk-informed, performance-based, and objective EP framework*
 - *We do not support including PIs in the regulations*

Performance Base Science

- **Develop a technical basis for resolving key EP issues including:**
 - **Current EP basis to contend with terrorist sequences, updating guidance on evacuation vs. sheltering, and a review of guidance and regulations associated with EP.**
 - **Provide a more sound, updated technical basis for EP (the current basis is based on technology that is 30 years old) that can be used to increase public confidence.**

Performance Base Science

- **Provide a methodology for defining smart protective action strategies that has the potential to significantly reduce public risk from accidents**
- **Communicate with offsite agencies to facilitate their acceptance of these protective action strategies**
- **Develop a risk-informed (R-I) framework for the EP basis**

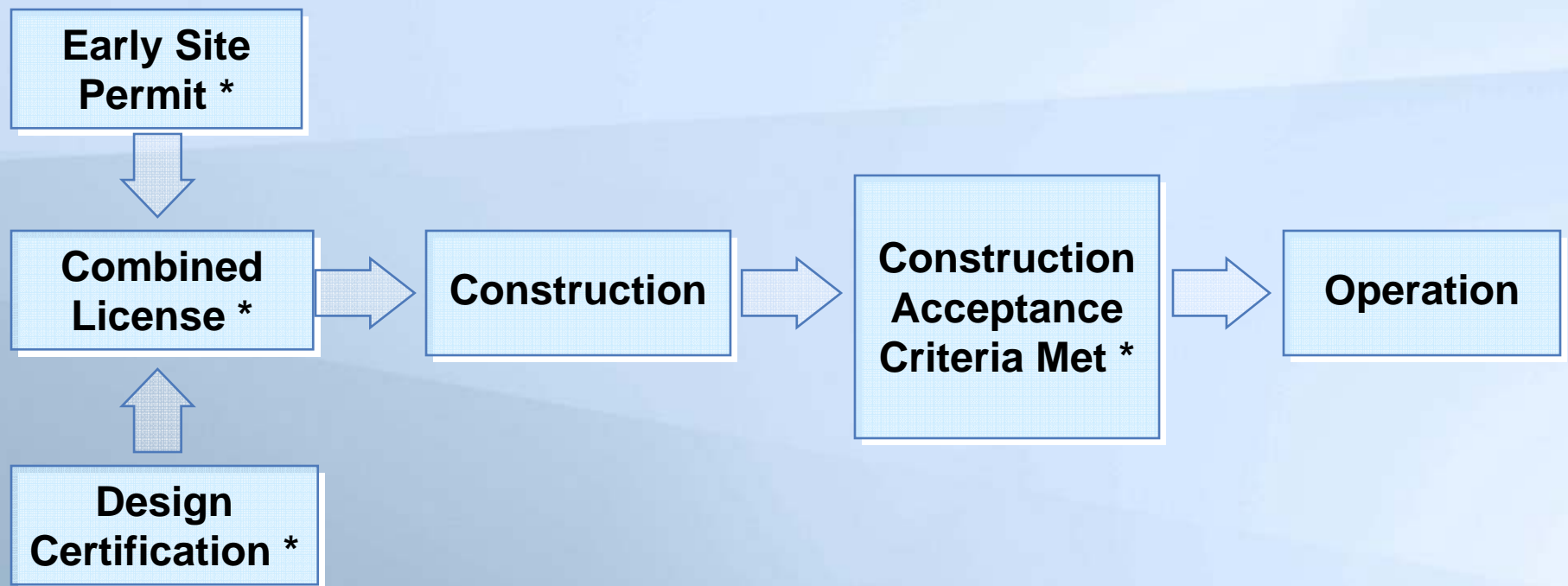
What is Driving Interest in New Nuclear Plants

- **Need for power – base load generation**
 - Margins are becoming critical
- **Increasing environmental constraints**
- **Volatility in natural gas prices**
- **Increasing recognition & support from public & policymakers**

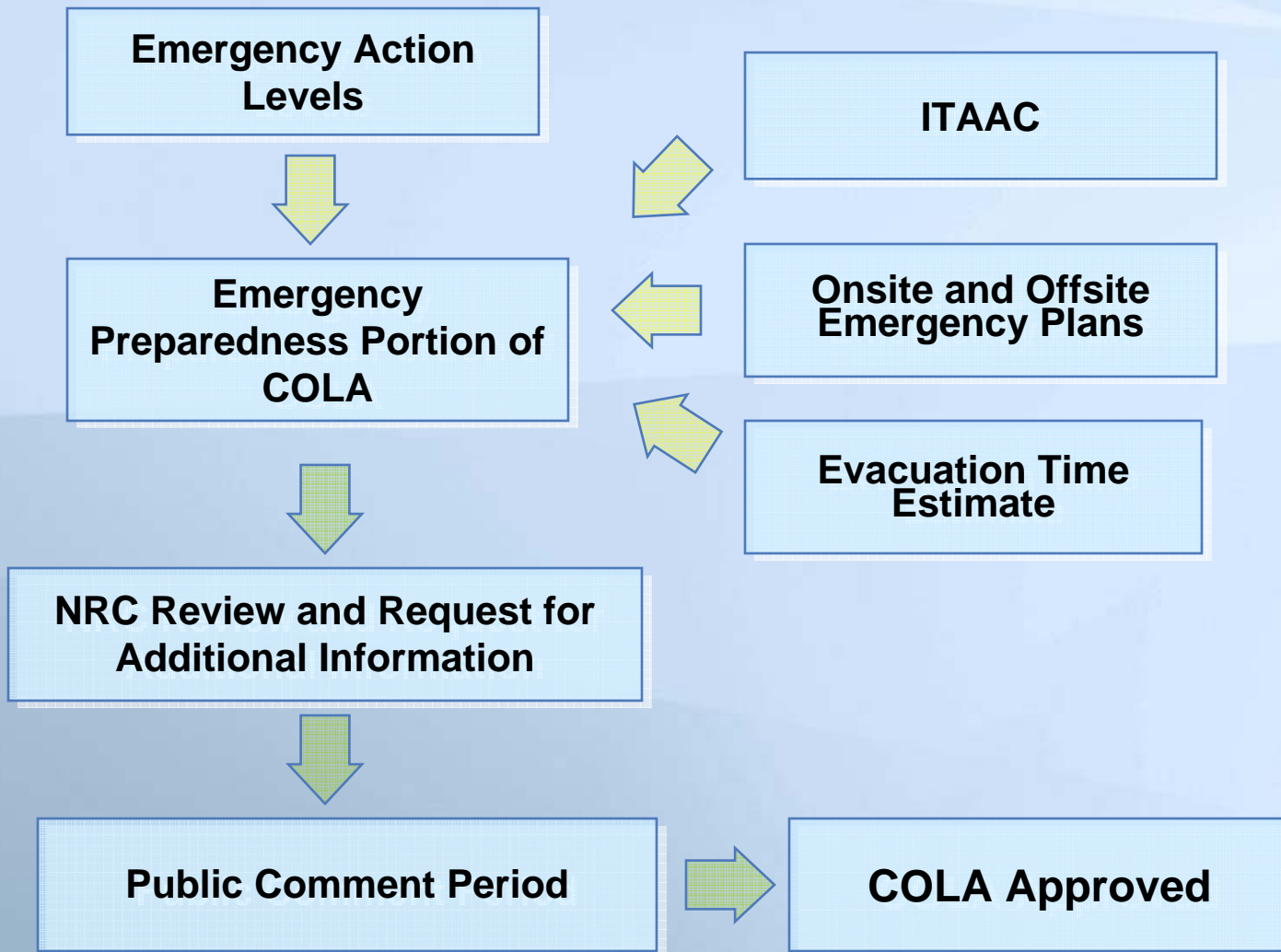
Part 52 Process

- **Resolve safety issues before the start of construction**
- **Increase public involvement**
- **Make more information available to the public at the appropriate time in the process**
- **Add certainty & predictability**
- **Increase public & investor confidence**

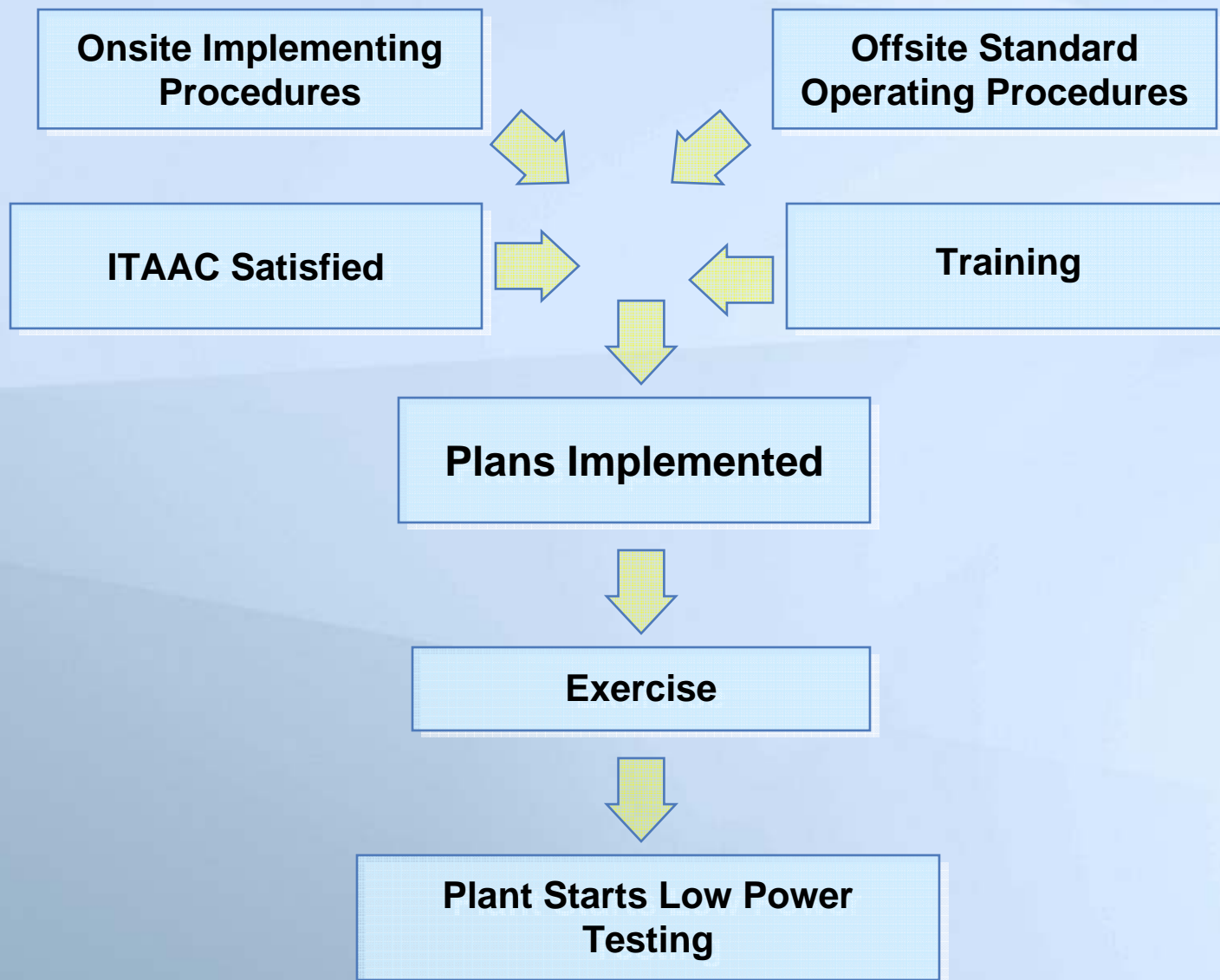
New NRC 10 CFR Part 52 Licensing Process



Emergency Preparedness COLA



Emergency Plan Implementation



Looking Forward

- **Regulatory basis remains valid, assure stability and predictability, together with public confidence in the industry's ability to respond to an emergency**
- **Ensure integration of relevant offsite emergency, operations, and security programs to achieve a consolidated response**

Looking Forward

- **Maintain public confidence that on-site and off-site plans are in place to protect public safety**
- **Recognize that nuclear emergency response programs are the standard against which all-hazard response programs are modeled nationwide**

***Emergency Preparedness and
Communication Forum***

June 11-12, 2007

***Emergency Preparedness
Training Course***

June 13-15, 2007

**Royal Sonesta Hotel
New Orleans, LA**



Thank You

Questions/Discussion

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