

NEW REACTORS

General Session - Panel: May 03, 2007; 10:45a-11:45a

(DOE: 10 min; NRC: 15 min; DHS/FEMA: 10 min; State: 10 min; Q&A: 15 min)

Panelists: Kenneth Wade (DOE), Kevin Williams (NRC), Conrad Burnside (DHS/FEMA), Stephen Clark (State of GA)

SUMMARY:

State of Georgia (GA):

STATE PERSPECTIVE ON NEW REACTOR LICENSING

State Radiological Emergency Preparedness (REP) programs must be aware of the potential issues that may arise if a new reactor is proposed in their state. These issues involve concerns that go beyond emergency preparedness. States where new reactors are being proposed confront environmental, economic, and political concerns. While State REP programs need to be cognizant of these concerns, their main focus remains on emergency preparedness. The two universal factors impacting state involvement include the regulatory path that the applicant decides to follow for licensing and whether the applicant proposes the new reactor(s) at an existing site or a new "greenfield" site. The regulatory path chosen by the applicant affects timing issues for State involvement. The decision to use an existing site requires the review and possibly updates to state and local plans. New "greenfield" sites require new plan development and approval, adding an extra dimension for State and local emergency planners to consider. Regardless of how the applicant decides to proceed, the new reactor licensing process will demand coordination between States, locals, the licensee, and DHS/FEMA.