



Nuclear Regulatory Commissions Safety Culture Policy Statement

Martin J. Virgilio

**Deputy Executive Director for Materials, Waste, Research,
State, Tribal, and Compliance Programs**

NRC Stakeholders Meeting

February 3, 2010

Overview

- Introduction
- Importance of Safety Culture
- Role of Policy Statement
- Importance of Public Workshops
- Safety Culture Characteristics
- Remaining Steps Policy
- Closing Remarks

Importance of Safety Culture

- Nexus to Safety
- Historical Events
- Preventing Events

Role of Policy Statement

- Establish NRC Expectations for Safety Culture
 - Materials Licensees and Certificate Holders
 - Reactor Licensees
 - Agreement State Licensees
- Define Safety Culture and Describe Characteristics
- Communicate Roles and Responsibilities

Importance of This Work Shop

Engage Stakeholders:

- Comments on Proposed Policy Statement
- Seek Alignment (Using Common Terminology)
 - Definition of Safety Culture
 - Safety Culture Characteristics
- Clarify Process and Next Steps

Importance of Safety Culture Characteristics

Draft Characteristics

- Work Practices
- Work Planning and Control
- Safety Conscious Work Environment
- Problem Identification and Evaluation
- Problem Resolution
- Resources
- Licensee Decision-Making
- Accountability
- Continuous Learning Environment

Considerations For Characteristics

- Characteristic Clarity
- Unnecessary Duplication
- Missing Characteristics
- Tangible

Remaining Steps

- Continue to Solicit Stakeholder Input
- Submit final policy statement for Commission approval – early March 2011
- After final approval and issuance, focus on implementation

Closing Remarks

- Safety culture is an essential element for anyone performing or overseeing NRC regulated activities
- Licensee management has primary responsibility for establishing and maintaining a positive safety culture
- NRC has independent oversight role
- This Work Shop and Outreach efforts are an important component for developing final policy statement

Questions?