

# United States GNSS Steering Committee Presentation

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U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission  
March 2012

# U.S. Nuclear Safety Network

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## **Active Participants**

- US. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC)
- Inter-agency group:
  - National Security Council; Departments of State, Energy, Commerce, Transportation, etc., as needed

## **Stakeholders**

- Industry groups
- Utilities
- General Public, Others

# NRC Program Areas

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- International Conventions and Treaties
- Nuclear Export and Import Licensing
- Bilateral Cooperation Arrangements
- Multilateral Cooperation
- Research Cooperation



# International Legal Obligations

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- Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty
- Conventions:
  - Nuclear Safety
  - Waste & Spent Fuel Assistance
  - Early Notification
  - Liability
  - Physical Protection of Nuclear Material
- International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) safeguards



Signature of the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty in 1968. The Treaty entered into force in 1970 and on 11 May 1995 was extended indefinitely. A total of 190 parties have joined the Treaty, including the five nuclear-weapon States.

# Export & Import Licensing

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- **Exports:** reactors; fuel cycle facilities; components; reactor-grade graphite; heavy water; source and special nuclear materials (e.g.: uranium, plutonium, tritium, radioactive sources, spent fuel, radioactive waste)
- **Imports:** reactors and components, other nuclear facilities, nuclear materials



President Eisenhower signing the Atomic Energy Act in 1954.

Cutaway view of the Westinghouse AP1000 reactor





# Bilateral Exchanges

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- Bilateral arrangements with 43 countries
- First ones signed in 1974
- Bilateral consultations and technical information exchanges to improve regulatory infrastructure for the control of radioactive materials
- Foreign assignee and trainee programs



Turkish Energy Market Regulatory Authority  
Visit to Region III



Signing of Bilateral Arrangements with the  
United Arab Emirates and Canada



# Multilateral Exchanges

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- International Atomic Energy Agency: safety, safeguards, security, technical assistance
- Nuclear Energy Agency: nuclear power plant safety, emergency preparedness and research
- International Commission On Radiological Protection: radiation safety



IAEA General Conference



OECD Nuclear Energy Agency (NEA), the Halden Reactor Project

# Research Cooperation

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- Over 90 cooperative research agreements
- Illustrative topics: seismicity, risk-informed technology, fuel behavior and material science, fire modeling, loss-of-coolant accident experiments
- Four million dollars in NRC contributions leverages forty million dollars in research benefits
- Access to international research facilities



OECD/NEA Member States



# Areas of Assistance & Cooperation

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Nuclear Non-Proliferation

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Nuclear Safety Research

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Physical Security

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Radiation Protection

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Regulatory Matters

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Risk Assessment

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Safeguards

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Safety

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Spent Fuel & Waste Management

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Standards Development

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Technical Assistance

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Training

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Transportation

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Construction Permit Workshop for the Forum of Nuclear Regulatory Bodies of Africa (FNRBA)  
Conducted by NRC's International Regulatory Development Program

# Knowledge Management

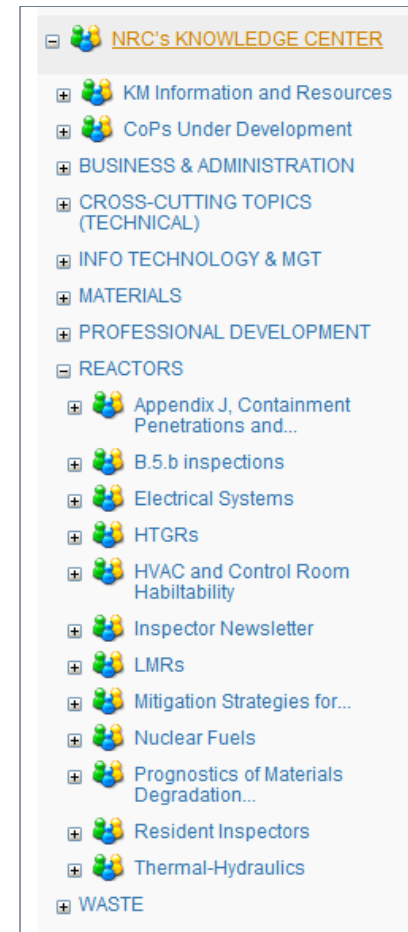
- Knowledge management is an integral part of safety culture
- Formal knowledge management program started in 2006
- NRC Knowledge Center: internal, web-based application that incorporates social networking



# Knowledge Management

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- High-level, technical programs to ensure we capture knowledge and lessons on a broad scale, and attempt to integrate those lessons into our everyday operations
- More than 150 communities of practice provide a very direct means of transferring knowledge and experience that has been accumulated over many years



# Knowledge Management

- Personal profiles (voluntary): name, education, skills, experience, languages spoken, and areas of high-level expertise.
- Lessons-learned program is aimed at ensuring that knowledge gained from significant events and issues is retained and disseminated to maximize benefit to the NRC.

The screenshot shows the NRC website for the Division of Inspection and Regional Support (DIRS). The page includes a navigation menu with links such as 'Glossary', 'Site Index', and 'Contact Us'. The main content area is dated March 27, 2012, and features several sections: 'About Us', 'Inspection Manual Chapter', 'Reactor Operating Experience Gateway', 'ROP - Reactor Oversight Process', 'ROP Digital City', and 'Operability Determination Process Training'. A 'Quick Links' section provides access to various SharePoint sites. A 'DIRS Reminder Calendar' for March 2012 is also visible. The 'Philosophy of Operations' section states the goal of providing high-quality products on-time. The 'Branch Mission Statements' section lists several branches, with the 'Operating Experience Branch (IOEB)' highlighted in yellow. The 'Mission Statement' section describes the division's role in supporting the NRC's mission to protect public health, safety, and the environment.

# Outreach: www.nrc.gov

## NRC public website:

- 37,192 web pages
- 6.3 million requests in last 30 days
- 51,894 PDF files
- Public participation encouraged
- Social media enabled
- Public document “room”
- Multimedia elements

The screenshot shows the NRC website homepage with a dark blue header. The main navigation menu includes: NUCLEAR REACTORS, NUCLEAR MATERIALS, RADIOACTIVE WASTE, NUCLEAR SECURITY, PUBLIC MEETINGS & INVOLVEMENT, NRC LIBRARY, and ABOUT NRC. A search bar is located in the top right corner. Below the navigation, there are several content blocks: a 'Facility Locator' section with a map of the United States; a 'STAY CONNECTED' section with social media icons for Blog, Flickr, Twitter, YouTube, and RSS; a 'Spotlight' section listing recent news items; a 'News & Speeches' section featuring a news item about a new Resident Inspector at Palo Verde Nuclear Generating Station; a 'Public Meetings' section with a calendar for March 2012; and several other sections including 'NRC Meeting Webcast', 'Event Reports', 'ADAMS Public Documents', 'Open Government', 'Students & Teachers', and 'Photos & Video'. The website also features a 'REPORT A SAFETY CONCERN' button in the top right.



# Open Government

“The U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) views nuclear regulation as the public’s business and, as such, believes it should be transacted as openly and candidly as possible to maintain and enhance the public’s confidence. Ensuring appropriate openness explicitly recognizes that the public must be informed about, and have a reasonable opportunity to participate meaningfully in, the NRC’s regulatory processes.”

The screenshot shows the NRC website's 'Public Meetings & Involvement' section. The header includes the NRC logo and navigation tabs for Nuclear Reactors, Nuclear Materials, Radioactive Waste, Nuclear Security, Public Meetings & Involvement, NRC Library, and About NRC. The main content area is titled 'The NRC Approach to Open Government' and features a 'Subscribe To Page Updates' button. The text explains the NRC's commitment to openness and transparency, mentioning President Barack Obama's Open Government Initiative (EXIT). A list of key topics includes Open Government Philosophy, Plan, and News; Transparency; Public Participation; Collaboration; Plain Writing; Evaluating Our Progress; Share Your Ideas About Open Government; and NRC Contacts for Open Government. A sidebar on the right lists various initiatives like Stakeholder Meeting, Flagship Initiative, .Gov Reform Initiative, Web Improvement Plan, Streamlining Service Delivery & Customer Service, Customer Service Plan, Rate Our Datasets & Share Your Successes, and Web Conferencing for Public Meetings (EXIT). At the bottom, there are two columns of links: 'Selected NRC Information Resources' and 'NRC's High-Value Datasets'.

**U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission**  
Protecting People and the Environment

Enter your search

**REPORT**  
A SAFETY CONCERN

NUCLEAR REACTORS | NUCLEAR MATERIALS | RADIOACTIVE WASTE | NUCLEAR SECURITY | PUBLIC MEETINGS & INVOLVEMENT | NRC LIBRARY | ABOUT NRC

Home > Public Involvement > The NRC Approach to Open Government

Subscribe To Page Updates

## The NRC Approach to Open Government

As an independent regulatory agency that prides itself on openness, the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) is pleased to take an active role in President Barack Obama's Open Government Initiative (EXIT), with its focus on open, accountable, and accessible government. The NRC has a long history of, and commitment to, transparency, participation, and collaboration in our regulatory activities.

For details on these and other aspects of the NRC Approach to Open Government, please see the following pages:

- Open Government Philosophy, Plan, and News
- Transparency
- Public Participation
- Collaboration
- Plain Writing
- Evaluating Our Progress
- Share Your Ideas About Open Government
- NRC Contacts for Open Government

For more information, see Selected NRC Information Resources, NRC's High-Value Datasets, and Other Federal Open Government Initiatives (below).

**Selected NRC Information Resources**

- » The Commission
- » Plans, Budget, and Performance
- » Congressional Affairs (Reports, Testimony, and Correspondence)
- » News, Information, & Media Resources/Policies
- » Rulemaking

**NRC's High-Value Datasets**

- » NRC Library
- » Records Management
- » Declassification Program
- » Inspector General Program and Reports
- » FOIA/Privacy Act Requests/Reports

**KEY TOPICS**

- Open Government Plan
- Stakeholder Meeting
- Flagship Initiative
- .Gov Reform Initiative
- Web Improvement Plan
- Streamlining Service Delivery & Customer Service
- Customer Service Plan
- Rate Our Datasets & Share Your Successes
- Web Conferencing for Public Meetings (EXIT)

**NRC Contacts**

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Sr. Accountable Official

James B. Schaeffer  
Open Government Representative

Francine F. Goldberg  
Co-Chair, Open Government Advisory Group

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Other Contacts for Open Government  
Other Ways to Contact Us  
Telephone Directory  
Our Organization  
Organization Chart

# Expectations

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- GNSSN should be an efficient, cost-effective, and user friendly set of tools that focuses on the needs of the international nuclear safety community.
- RegNet: focus on countries that do not have a web presence, some of which are emerging nuclear power countries or are experiencing increased use of radioactive sources due to raw materials exploitation.
- Start small and let grow organically based on frequent user feedback.
- Responsive to user requests.
- Flexibility.
- Simplicity.

# Recommendations

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- Create realistic action plan & risk management plan.
- Site monitoring plan (usage, trends, etc.)
- Regular user surveys and take appropriate action.
- Avoid duplication.
- Know your customers. Who are your users and what do they want?
- Increased use of SharePoint collaboration tools to manage the project.

# Information & Contact

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# Thank You

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