



Safety Culture Initiative Approach Summary

**Eugene Cobey, Chief
Reactor Projects Branch 3, Region I**

January 18, 2006



Purpose

To facilitate a common understanding of the proposed approach for the treatment of safety culture within the Reactor Oversight Process.



Changes/Clarifications to Summary

NRC staff revised the Safety Culture Initiative Approach Summary on December 21, 2005. The summary included the following changes and/or clarifications:

- Added definitions for safety culture and safety culture components;
- Added detail on the proposed change to the treatment of cross-cutting issues;
- Revised the criteria for a substantive cross-cutting issue in safety conscious work environment; and
- Added detail on proposed changes in assessment and follow-up actions prescribed by MC 0305.



Points Needing Emphasis

- Neither the inspection and issue characterization process nor the documentation associated with a finding will change in response to making the proposed adjustments to the cross-cutting areas
- Having a cross-cutting aspect is not a sufficient reason to determine that an inspection finding is more than minor



Summary

The proposed Safety Culture Initiative Approach satisfies the original objectives.

- To provide better opportunities for the NRC staff to diagnose safety culture weaknesses and take appropriate actions before they result in a degraded cornerstone (enhancement of IP 71152 and treatment of cross cutting issues)
- To provide NRC staff with a structured process to determine the need to specifically evaluate a licensee's safety culture after performance problems have resulted in a degraded cornerstone (enhancement of IP 95002 and MC 0305)
- To provide the NRC staff with a systematic safety culture evaluation process and a tool to review a licensee's safety culture assessment (enhancement of IP 95003)