



U.S.NRC

UNITED STATES NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

Protecting People and the Environment

Safety Culture and RTRs

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Overview

- What is safety culture?
- What is the Safety Culture Policy Statement and how does it apply to RTRs?
- Recent RTR case studies of both positive and negative safety culture.
- Questions and comments

Safety Culture Policy Statement

Definition:

Nuclear Safety Culture is the core values and behaviors resulting from a collective commitment by leaders and individuals to emphasize safety over competing goals to ensure protection of people and the environment.

What does this mean, in general?

- Emphasis on safety over competing production and monetary goals.
- Prompt identification and thorough resolution of nuclear safety issues.
- Adequate training, resources and procedures for personnel to do their jobs.

What does this mean for the RTR community?

- Positive safety culture will aid to improve educational productivity.
- Positive safety culture typically results in fewer errors, therefore fewer NRC inspections are needed.

Safety Culture Policy Statement Traits

- **Leadership Safety Values and Actions**
- **Problem Identification and Resolution**
- **Personal Accountability**
- **Work Process**
- **Continuous Learning**
- **Environment for Raising Concerns**
- **Effective Safety Communication**
- **Respectful Work Environment**
- **Questioning Attitude**



How the Principles of Safety Culture are Applied

- Continuity of Knowledge (Oregon State)
- Organizational Values (AFRRI)
- Recognition and Vigilance (Penn State)
- Communal Understanding (TRTR Newsletter)

Events with Missed Opportunity

- Potential Overexposure Event at MIT
- Substantial Potential for Overexposure Event at Kansas State
- NC State Neutron Beam Exposure
- RINSC Chilling Effect



NRC Public Website

<http://www.nrc.gov/about-nrc/regulatory/enforcement/safety-culture.html>