













2012 RIC

NRC FACTOIDS













NRC's first Chairman, Bill Anders, was an astronaut on Apollo 8's mission to the moon.













NRC employees occupy over 1 million square feet of office space in 13 buildings in 6 states.













Dresden Unit 1, the first commercial nuclear plant in the Unites States, was licensed in 1959 by the Atomic Energy Commission. It was decommissioned in 1978.













Region I licenses and inspects over 950 materials licensees in the non-Agreement States in Regions I & II, and is responsible for licensees in Puerto Rico and the Virgin Islands.













The NRC's Headquarters Operations Center (HOC) is open and staffed 24 hours a day, 7 days a week and remains open for holidays, inclement weather or other instances when the federal government is closed.













Staff in Region IV oversee the use of radioactive materials in the Pacific Territories and 22 western states.













NRC has processed about 600 allegations per year for each of the last 10 years.













NRC has processed over 36,000 NRC licensee fingerprints through the Federal Bureau of Investigation Criminal Justice Information Services in 2011.













Over 29,600 people visited the NRC's buildings at the White Flint complex last year.













Within 90 miles of NRC's Region III office, there are 8 nuclear units – Braidwood, Byron, Dresden and LaSalle. Each plant has two units.













The Office of New Reactors (NRO) was established in 2006.













Launched January 24, 2012, NRC's Flicker gallery includes nearly 180 photos that have been collectively viewed more than 4,200 times.













The Computer Security Office ensures that agency programs comply with the Federal Information Security
Management Act and Office of Management and Budget mandates.













The Atomic Energy Commission (AEC) Region I office started out in New York City, then relocated to Newark, NJ. It moved to King of Prussia, PA the same year the NRC was created. It is moving to a new office in King of Prussia in May 2012.













Region II in Atlanta, GA, is the only NRC office located in a major city rather than a suburb.













The Office of New Reactors has issued 4 design certifications – ABWR, System 80+, AP600, and AP1000.













Of the 260 staff in the Office of Nuclear Regulatory Research, 81 (31%) have PhD's and 87 (33%) have Masters Degrees.













Between January 2011 and January 2012, NRC provided security support for 399 public meetings nationwide.













In 2007, the Computer Security Office was authorized by the Commission.













The Office of Nuclear Regulatory
Research sponsors and manages over
90 active international agreements with
30 countries.













Approximately 1,400 calls per day were received by NRC Headquarters Operations Center at the height of the events at Fukushima Dai-ichi.













Between 1947 and 1975, 50 nuclear plants were decommissioned.













The cost associated with processing FOIA requests at NRC for FY 2011 was \$1,738,305. Of that amount, the NRC was able to charge/collect \$9,485.













In 2011, the New Reactor Program completed review of the first combined license applications for Vogtle and Summer.













Region I has 26 operating reactors that have accumulated almost 1,000 reactor-years of operation, and are inspected by inspectors with over 1,000 years of collective reactor experience.













Since the release of ADAMS in 1999, the NRC has made public nearly 700,000 full-text documents (more than 93,000 in the past year alone) and we currently publish an average of 387 new documents each day.













The Office of New Reactors worked with the National Treasury Employees Union (NTEU), to develop and pilot the Newflex program in support of expanding familyfriendly and work flexibility initiatives for the agency.













NRC inspectors performed about 155,938 hours of direct inspection at commercial reactor sites during calendar year 2010.













In the 1930's a failed experiment by a Swiss physicist for detecting gas using a radioactive source lead to the discovery of smoke detectors when the scientist lit a cigarette and the detector registered a reaction.













Region II houses the Center for Construction Inspection for all new nuclear power plants and fuel cycle facilities.













NRC launched its YouTube channel on September 8, 2011. Since that time 21 videos have been created. Collectively they have been viewed more than 6,600 times.













It is estimated that if only 1 technical reviewer participated in a design certification application review, it would take him/her 32 years to complete the review.













The Office of Nuclear Regulatory Research is home to an NRC employee with almost 51 years of government service, all of them at the NRC and its predecessor agency.













Some lightning rods contain Radium-226 to make them more effective.













To date, NRC has approved 139 power uprates representing 18,063 MWt or 6,021 MWe. Approximately the equivalent of 6 large nuclear power plants.













In 2011 NRC issued 481 new Reactor Operator and Senior Reactor Operator licenses.













Nuclear pharmaceutical manufacturer, Mallinckrodt Inc. is the only materials license holder in the country who is required to maintain an Emergency Plan by the NRC.













Approximately 190 miles of cable for data/telecom services will be used in building Three of the White Flint North Complex.













Over 700 NRC employees responded to the events at Fukushima Dai-ichi and more than 20 NRC staff traveled to Japan as part of the NRC's "Japan Team."













The Office of Enforcement facilitated development of the Safety Culture Policy Statement and coordinates agency internal safety culture activities.













The Region III materials program involves the oversight, inspection, and licensing of approximately 1,200 materials licensees in the Midwest.













The Office of Enforcement provides oversight for the Agency's Allegation Program.













Smoke detectors work because of radiation. They are an example of the beneficial uses of radiation and radioactive materials.













Inspectors from Region IV review activities in remote locations such as Guam, Saipan, Hawaii, northern reaches of Alaska, and on offshore oil well platforms.













In 2011, approximately 100 escalated enforcement actions were issued.













The NRC Technical Library staff circulated 2,539 books to agency staff during FY 2011













Region IV staff members who inspect offshore oil well platforms must complete helicopter crash evacuation training.













On average, an allegation received by NRC contains 2 to 3 concerns.













Approximately 1,088 public meeting notices were posted in 2011.













The Information Collections Team manages 89 Office of Management and Budget approved active information collections clearances, totaling 1,180,300 annual responses and 10,502,525 annual burden hours.













In FY 2011 the NRC received 365 FOIA requests. Thirty-three of these were related to the crisis in Japan. These 365 FOIA requests involved sending out and processing 926 requests for documents from the offices/regions.













During its first year, the NRC External Blog had 170,000 views and 150 posts.













At least two NRC resident inspectors who report to the appropriate regional office are located at each commercial nuclear power plant site.













Region IV covers about 75% of the surface area in the U.S. and 5 time zones.













NRC's Office of Nuclear Regulatory Research, the Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation and the Office of Nuclear Material Safety and Safeguards are Congressionally mandated Offices.















It takes approximately 11 days to process a standard FOIA request.













With 6 sites and 11 operating reactors, Illinois has more nuclear power plants than any other state.













The Office of Nuclear Regulatory Research has historically managed between \$50-100 million of contract work annually.













The NRC was the first Federal agency to give the public electronic access to all of its public documents through the groundbreaking system known as Agencywide Documents Access and Management System (ADAMS).













There are 59 domestic and 76 foreign organizations using MELCOR, the NRC's system level severe accident analysis code.













In the mid 1990's oversight responsibilities for Grand Gulf in Region II and Callaway in Region III were transferred Region IV.













NRC conducts approximately 900 public meetings annually.













Since April 2010, the NRC has published 29 high-value "datasets" collections of information about our regulatory activities that stakeholders can download, manipulate, and analyze; these datasets have collectively been downloaded more than 12,000 times, with an average of more than 800 downloads per month.













The final safety evaluation report for the ESBWR design certification document contains approximately 3,800 pages.













In 2011 the NRC started using the Google search appliance for its Intranet resulting in faster searches and a familiar interface.













Region I was struck by a rare tornado during a workday in November 1989. Fortunately there were no serious injuries.













The Office of Nuclear Security and Incident Response (NSIR) was established by the NRC Commission on April 7, 2002, to consolidate its safeguards, security, and incident response functions in response to the events of September 11, 2001.













Early site permits have been issued to Clinton, Grand Gulf, North Anna, and Vogtle sites.













The NRC's public website currently provides the public with access to more than 40,000 pages of information on a variety of mission-related activities.













Region I still employs eight people that responded to TMI-2 in the months after the March 1979 accident. In 2011, Region I also dispatched five engineers and health physicists to Japan in the months following the Fukushima event.













NRC's Technical Information Center answered 6,498 reference questions, supplied 4,806 documents to internal and external users, and carried out 11,460 database searches in FY 2011.













The fastest growing use of nuclear materials in medicine is for diagnostic and cancer treatment procedures in Veterinary medicine.













There are 650 monthly updates and additions to the NRC public website.













Region II opened the first two nuclear plant construction resident inspector offices in 2011, at Vogtle, near Augusta, GA, and at Summer, near Columbia, SC.













In January 2010, the NRC approved a license amendment request from Exelon for a pilot program to explore the production of Cobalt-60 at the Clinton Nuclear Power Station. The pilot program will provide data on how the modified assemblies perform during reactor operation.













Most of the NRC's computer codes are written in FORTRAN, a computer language that IBM first developed in the 1950's and is still one of the most popular languages in the area of high-performance computing.













In 2011, the NRC processed 1,218 announcements through the NRC Announcement System.













Since its launch on August 24, 2011, the NRC Twitter feed has attracted more than 1,300 followers, many of whom "retweet" our messages to others.













The NRC has administered the Generic Fundamentals Examination for 67 new reactor licensed operator candidates.













The decommissioning of Zion will involve the decommissioning of two reactor units and the building of an independent spent fuel storage facility. The subsequent handling, movement, and loading of spent fuel into storage containers will remain onsite. The planned completion time for this extensive effort is 10 years.













Region III completes about 450 inspections and about 950 licensing actions per year for nuclear materials licensees as part of the oversight of these materials programs.













The indicator lights in early appliances such as clothes washers and dryers, coffeemakers, and stereos used Krypton–85.













Annually, the average number of press releases issued by the Office of Public Affairs is 250.













On April 4, 1994, the Region V Office in Walnut Creek, CA, was closed and their responsibilities were transferred to the Region IV Office in Arlington, TX.













It is estimated that during the Vogtle and Summer hearings NRO staff consumed 1,037 and 816 cups of coffee respectively!













The Inspection and licensing of nuclear materials licensees in the geographical area of the Region II Office are performed out of the Region I Office in King of Prussia, PA.













In FY 2011, the NRC received 49 requests for expediting processing of FOIA requests. Twelve of these requests were granted.













NRC inspectors review the use of non-weapons radioactive materials possessed by the U.S. military and NASA.













On February 10, 2012, NRC issued two combined licenses for the construction of Vogtle Electric Generating Plants, Units 3&4. The license issued for Units 1&2 was in 1982.













NRC inspectors review the use of radioactive materials on pets at veterinary clinics.













Region II inspects 34 operating nuclear power units in the Southeast as well as 8 currently operating fuel cycle facilities across the nation.













A complex FOIA request takes an average of 46 days to process.