

US NRC

Legal and Regulatory Approach

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Legal Basis

- The Atomic Energy Act, as amended
- The overarching legal framework for the regulation of nuclear and radioactive materials

Regulations

- Regulations prescribe how licensed facilities/activities must operate
- Can be found in Title 10, Code of Federal Regulations, Sections 1 – 200
- Developed using a public process open to all stakeholders
- Generally, a three-step process
 - Regulatory/Technical Basis
 - Draft Regulation
 - Final Regulation
- The Commission votes on whether or not to approve the regulation
- The staff issues Regulatory Guides to support implementation of the regulations
- Rulemaking process is time consuming and resource intensive

Alternatives to Regulations

- Often it is necessary to impose requirements more quickly
- Orders may be issued, which can be immediately effective
- Requirements may be imposed via approval of security plans, which become license conditions

Requirements

- Whether imposed by regulation, orders, or license conditions, they are all inspectable and can be enforced
- Strong preference for the issuance of performance oriented requirements

Questions

