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Revising the Topical Report Review Process Overview

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Topical Report (TR) Purpose

- TRs improve efficiency of licensing process by allowing NRC staff to review proposed methodologies, designs, operational requirements, or other safety-related subjects on a generic basis
- NRC-approved TRs may be implemented by reference by multiple U.S. licensees in licensing action requests

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Distribution of TRs by Applicants (as of 1/1/2017)

Applicant	No. of TRs submitted
AREVA	17
BWROG	0
EPRi	5
GE	6
HF Concess	1
LM (Lockheed Martin)	1
Mitsubishi	1
NEI	3
PWROG	5
Radys	1
Studsvik	1
Toshiba	1
WEC	6

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NRC Staff Resource / TR Performance Metrics

- Prior to FY 11, performance metrics consisted of:
80% of TRs in inventory with age \leq 2 years
100% of TRs in inventory with age \leq 3 years
- Since then, due to resource reallocations to support Fukushima Lesson Learned actions, the metrics target was replaced by an annual completion target.
- FY 17 target is 15 TRs

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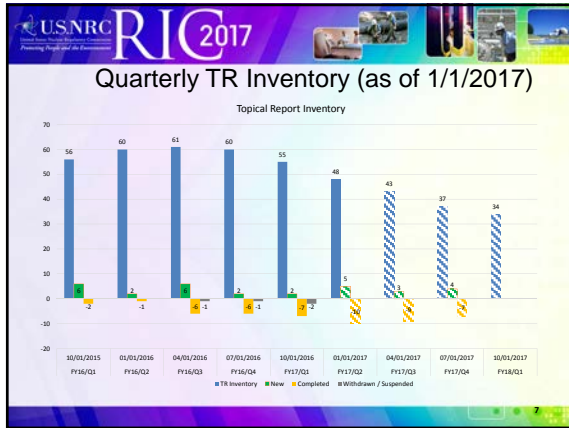
NRC Staff Assessment of TR Review Process Challenges

- Overall budget declining and resources re-directed to support other higher priority reviews since FY 11
- Challenges in applying current TR priority matrix
- On occasion, significant applicant delays in review and response times for some TRs
- Acceptance of TR submissions that are later determined to need substantial supplements/revisions

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NRC Efforts to Address Challenges / Progress Made

- Increased management oversight and communications between NRC and vendor staff
- Actively sought feedback on areas for improvement
- Developed and implemented initiatives to better plan and prepare for TR reviews
- Process improvement efforts continue



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- TR Priority Matrix - Under Consideration**
- Assign a priority (1-4) based on a matrix
 - Consider benefit, urgency, and industry input
 - Actively managed throughout review cycle including periodic vendor interactions with NRC management

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- TR Performance Metrics - Under Consideration**
1. Target: 80% of total milestones completed per year for TRs
 - 4 milestones/TR
 - Decision Letter Issued; RAIs Issued; Draft SE Issued; Final SE Issued
 2. Total number of TRs in inventory; age of TRs

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Other Process Improvement Areas

- Enhance pre-submission process
- Streamline the RAI process /use of audits
- Develop criteria for suspension and termination after TRs are accepted for review

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Next Steps

- Use ongoing periodic interface meetings between NRC staff and applicants to seek feedback
- Seek industry perspective on TR priority and proposed changes to LIC-500
- Plan to issue LIC-500 Rev 6 in late 2017
