



United States Nuclear Regulatory Commission

*Protecting People and the Environment*

# THE NRC: WHO WE ARE AND WHAT WE DO

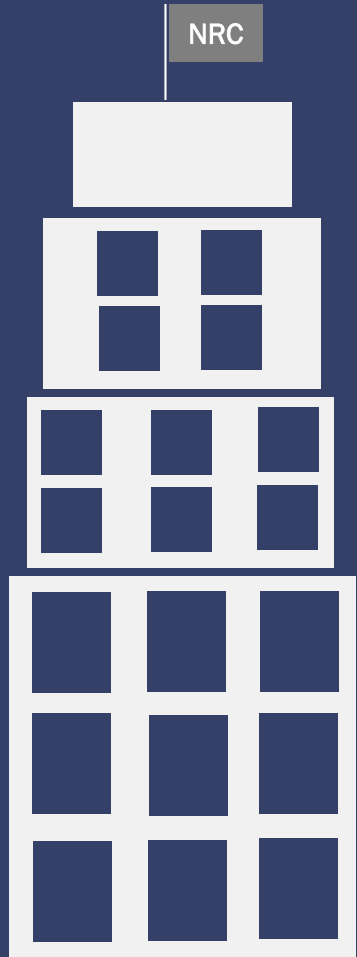


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Nuclear  
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[www.nrc.gov](http://www.nrc.gov)

# WHO WE ARE

## The Energy Reorganization Act of 1974



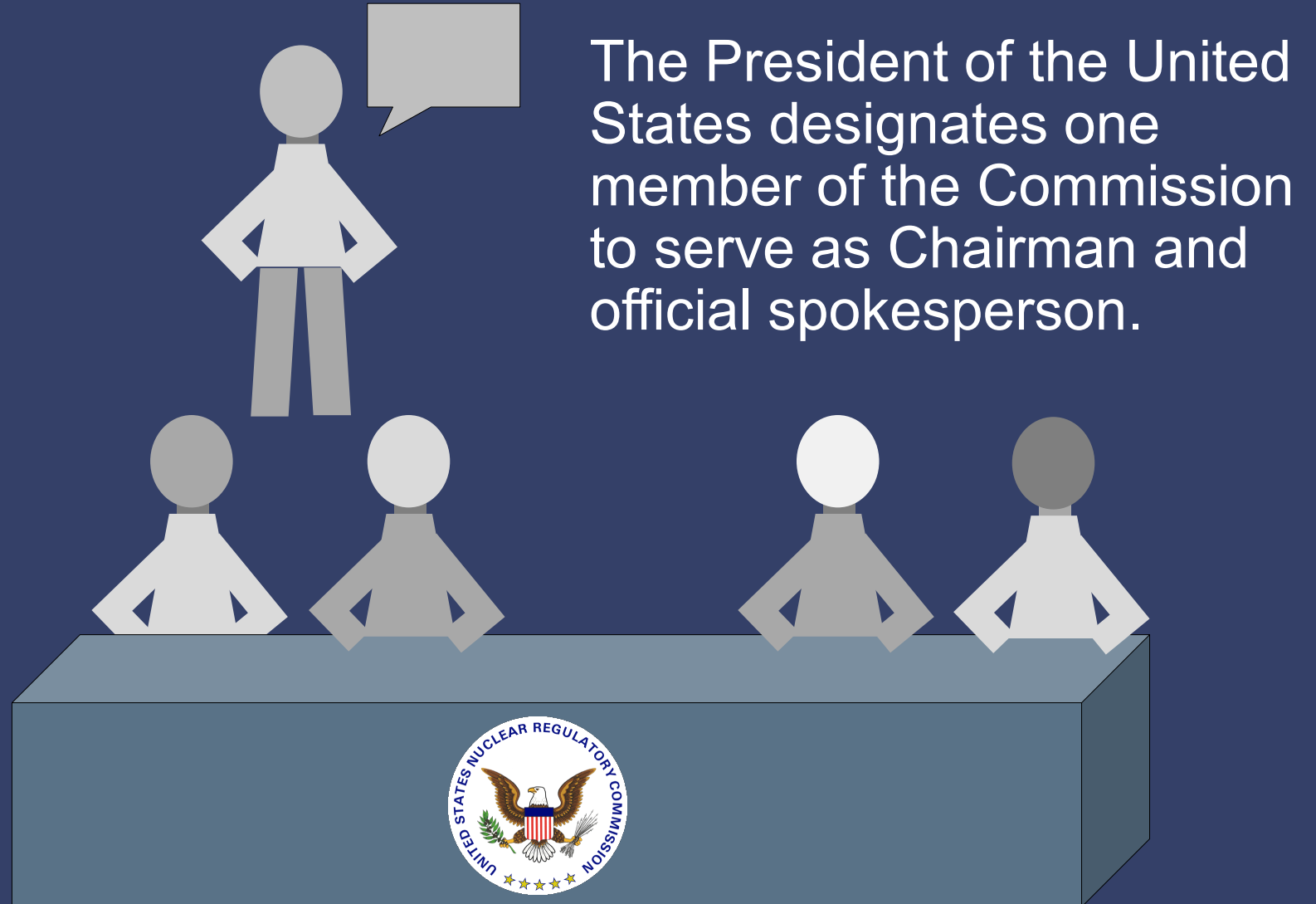
Established the NRC to independently regulate commercial use of nuclear material, including nuclear power.

Other duties of the former Atomic Energy Commission were assigned to the Department of Energy.



# WHO WE ARE

The NRC is headed by five Commissioners, all nominated by the President of the United States and confirmed by the Senate for staggered five-year terms. No more than three can be from the same political party.



# WHO WE ARE



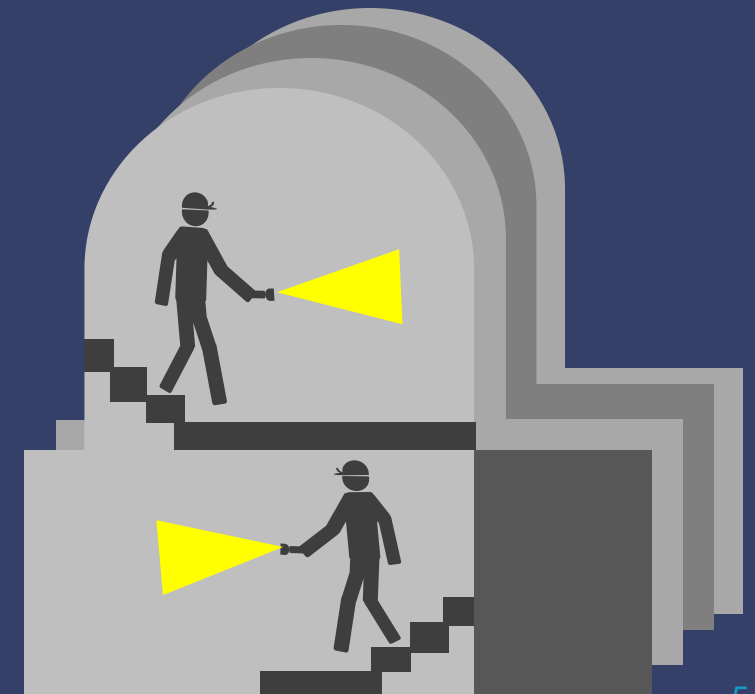
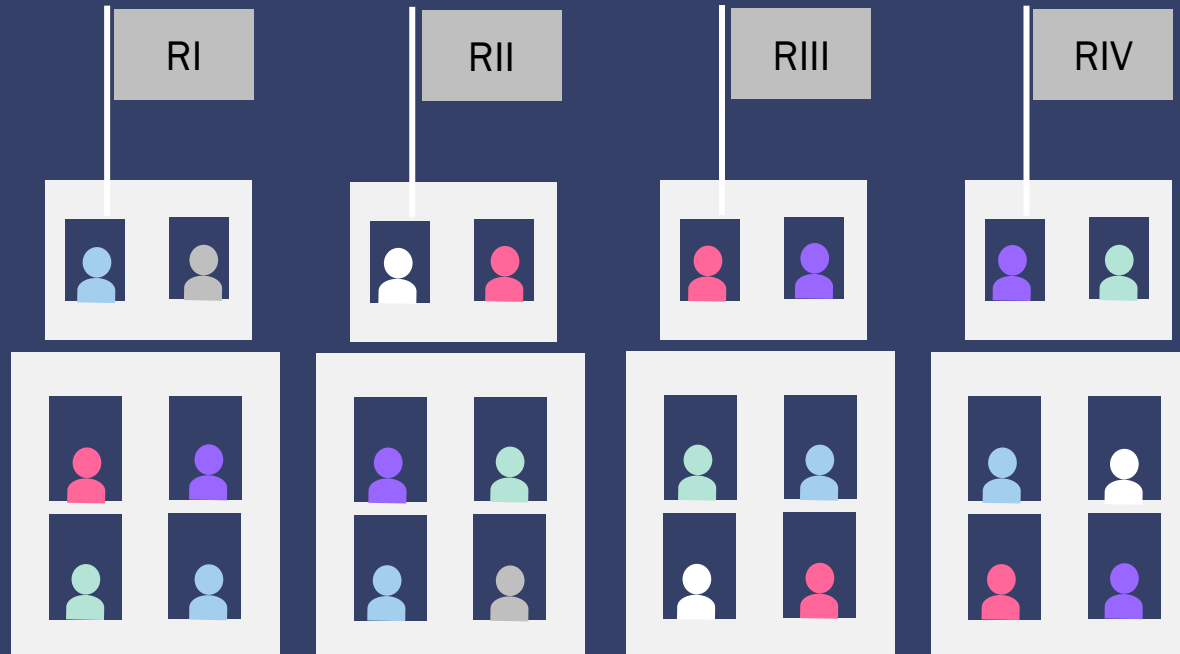
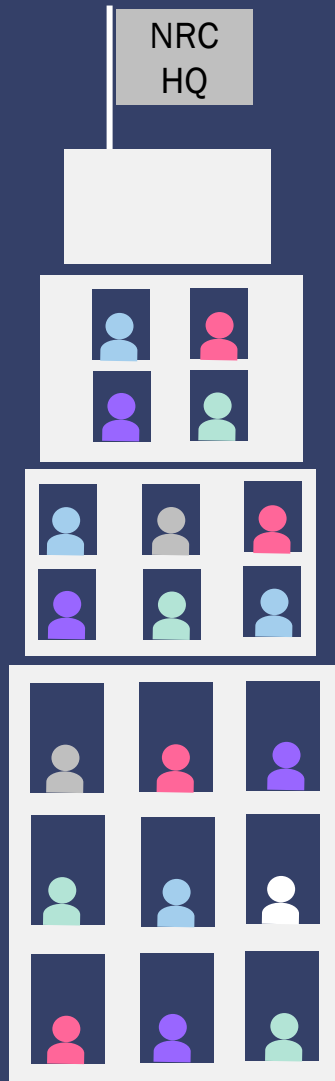
## The Commission...

- Formulates policies and regulations governing nuclear reactor and materials safety
- Issues orders to licensees
- Adjudicates legal matters brought before it

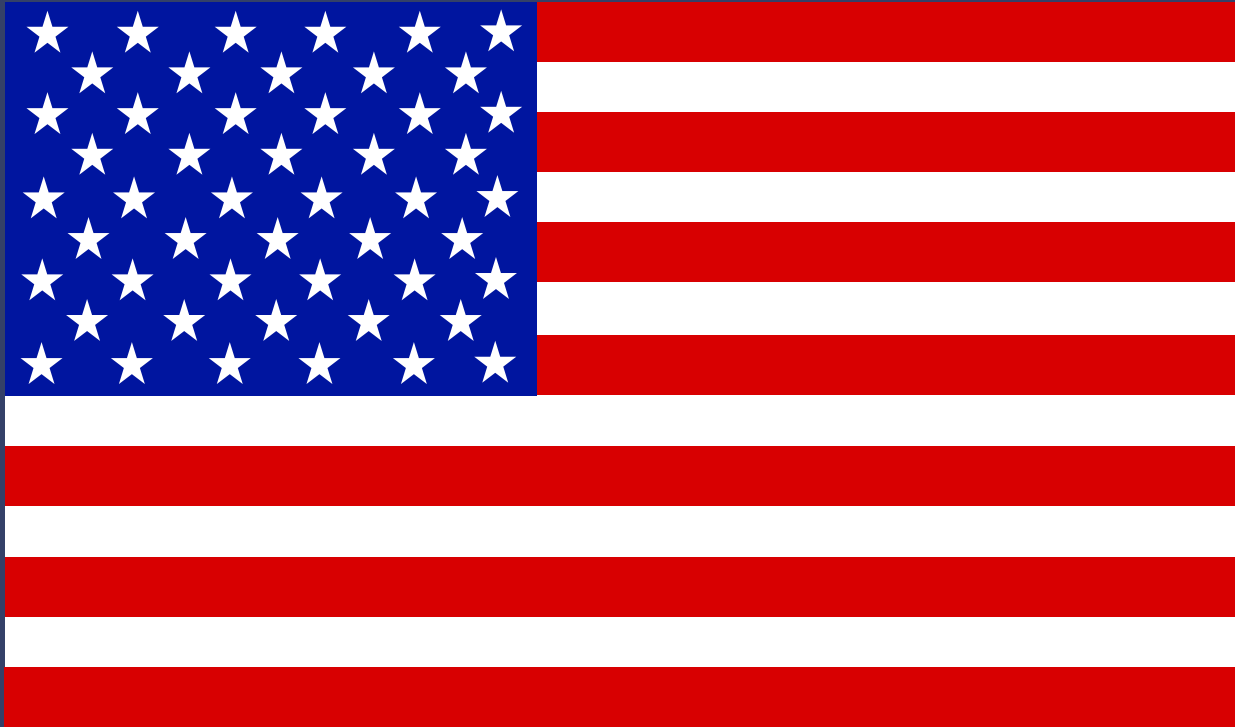


# WHO WE ARE

The NRC employs just under 3,000 people among its suburban Maryland headquarters and four regional offices in Pennsylvania, Georgia, Illinois and Texas including at least two resident inspectors at each nuclear power plant site.



# OUR MISSION



We license and regulate the Nation's civilian use of radioactive materials to provide reasonable assurance of adequate protection of public health and safety, and to promote the common defense and security and to protect the environment.

# THE NRC REGULATES:



Commercial power reactors, research and test reactors, and new reactor designs



Radioactive materials for medical, industrial, and academic use



Transportation, storage, and disposal of nuclear material and waste and decommissioning of nuclear facilities



Physical security, source security, and cyber security

# WHAT WE DON'T DO:

Regulate nuclear weapons, military reactors, or space vehicle reactors (These are regulated by other federal agencies.)



Lobby for nuclear power (the nation's nuclear agenda is set by the President and the Congress.)

Own or operate nuclear power plants

Regulate naturally occurring radon or X-rays (These are regulated by states or other federal agencies.)



# WHAT WE DO:

- Set Rules
- Licensing
- Oversight
- Enforcement
- Evaluation
- Provide Support
- Incident Response



# PARTNERS IN REGULATION

The NRC works with many other agencies and organizations including:

- Department of Energy
- Environmental Protection Agency
- Department of Homeland Security
- Federal Bureau of Investigation
- Department of Health and Human Services
- U.S. Congress
- International Atomic Energy Agency





# PARTNERS IN REGULATION



The NRC has granted Agreement States authority to regulate certain radioactive material. Those states develop regulations and appoint officials to ensure the materials are used safely and securely. The NRC retains authority over nuclear reactors, fuel fabrication facilities and certain amounts of radioactive material that can fission (split apart.)



# REGULATORY COOPERATION



- Regulatory cooperation relationship goes back to 2010.
- Number of engagements increased following the:
  - Signing of the U.S.- Poland *Intergovernmental Agreement for Civic Nuclear Cooperation* (2020)
  - Polish decision to use U.S. technology (Westinghouse AP1000 design) for its first reactors (2022).
- There is significant experience with AP1000 technology in the U.S. Two reactors are currently operating in the state of Georgia. As such:
  - The U.S. NRC is partnering with the Polish regulator (National Atomic Energy Agency, PAA) on regulatory issues such as licensing and project management.
  - Westinghouse is partnering with the Polish applicant (Polskie Elektrownie Jądrowe, PEJ) on design, construction, and engineering activities.

# THE PAA/NRC PARTNERSHIP

## ACCOMPLISHMENTS



NRC Workshops before 2022:

Regulatory programs

Workforce Planning



NRC Workshops since 2022:

Licensing and project management  
AP1000 technology

Safety Culture  
Public Outreach

In addition, the NRC has proudly hosted several groups of PAA subject matter experts for on-the-job rotations in our headquarter offices and the Vogtle (AP1000) site.





# The PAA/NRC Partnership

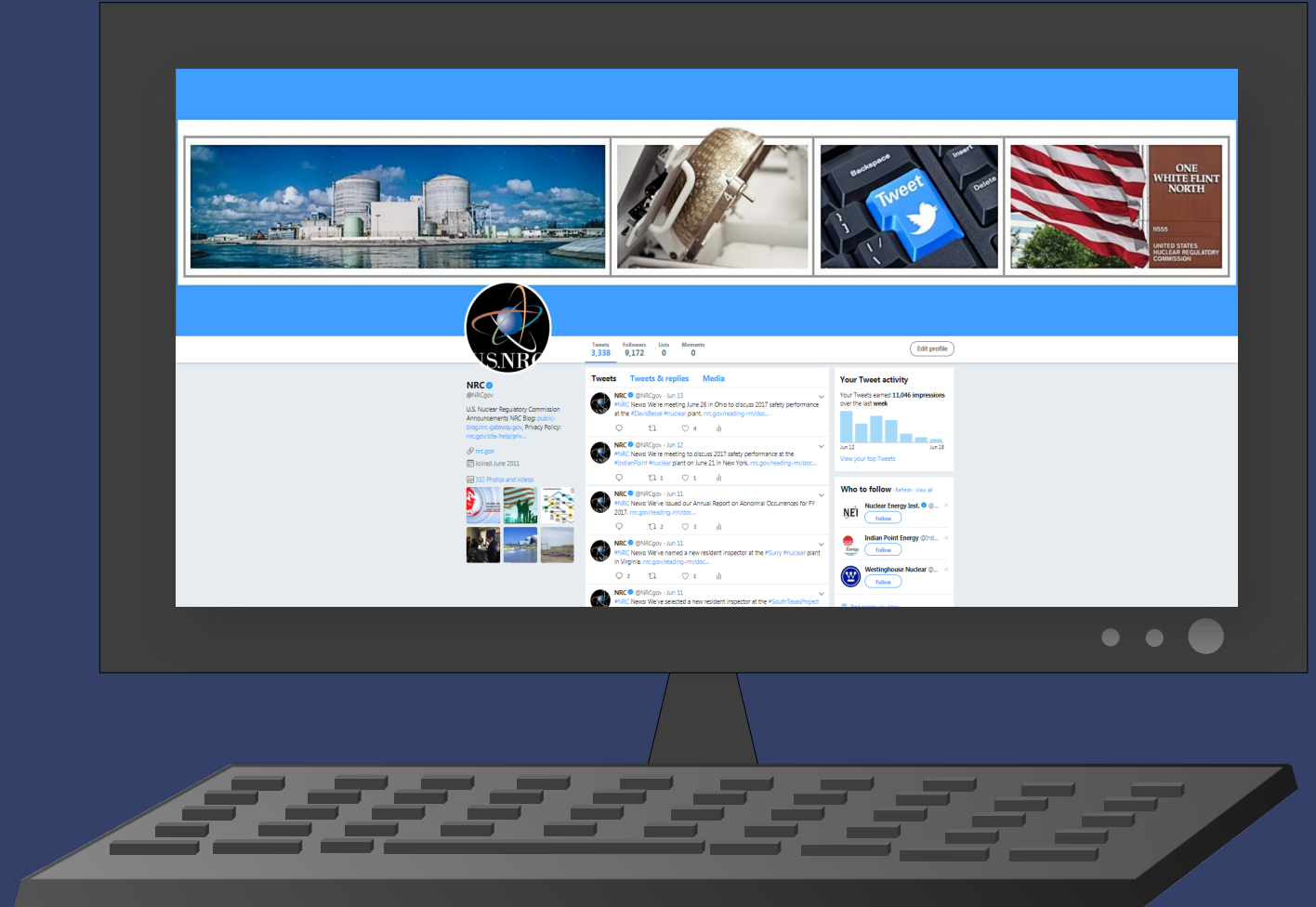
## *Road Ahead*

- The NRC and PAA will continue to exchange information as the PAA prepares to receive PEJ's AP1000 application in mid-2026.
  - Observing NRC public outreach activities
  - Probabilistic Risk Assessments
  - Use of thermal/hydraulic computer codes
  - Safety Evaluations
  - Design Changes
  - Construction Oversight and Inspection

# OPEN TO THE PUBLIC

The NRC places a high priority on keeping the public and stakeholders informed of its activities. At [www.nrc.gov](http://www.nrc.gov), you can:

- Find public meeting dates and transcripts;
- Read NRC testimony, speeches, press releases and policy decisions;
- Access the agency's Electronic Reading Room to find NRC publications and documents; and
- Connect with the NRC on social media sites.



# THANK YOU

