

International Conference on Human and Organizational Aspects of Assuring Nuclear Safety – Exploring 30 Years of Safety Culture



Contribution ID: 161

Type: **Dialogue Session**

Dialogue Session Contributing Paper: OECD-NEA's Green Booklet on an Effective Nuclear Regulatory Body

Tuesday, 23 February 2016 15:45 (1h 15m)

Country or International Agency

OECD-NEA

Synopsis

The fundamental objective of all nuclear safety regulatory bodies is to ensure that, within their countries, activities related to the peaceful use of nuclear energy are carried out in a safe manner, consistent with appropriate domestic and international safety principles and with full respect of the environment. In order to effectively achieve this objective, the nuclear regulatory body requires specific characteristics that will allow it “to do the right thing well and efficiently”. A healthy safety culture within the regulatory body is a fundamental characteristic of an effective regulator.

Although the national regulator plays an essential role in each country, operating experience has shown that accidents may impact other countries and may involve other national regulators. Safety is therefore not bounded by national borders. The implications of this global nuclear safety approach should be taken into account when addressing the safety culture of the national regulator.

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Session Classification: Dialogue Session