

ucsusa.org Two Brattle Square, Cambridge, MA 02138-3780 **t** 617.547.5552 **f** 617.864.9405 1825 K Street NW, Suite 800, Washington, DC 20006-1232 **t** 202.223.6133 **f** 202.223.6162 2397 Shattuck Avenue, Suite 203, Berkeley, CA 94704-1567 **t** 510.843.1872 **f** 510.843.3785 One North LaSalle Street, Suite 1904, Chicago, IL 60602-4064 **t** 312.578.1750 **f** 312.578.1751

Nuclear Power and the Need for Climate Change

David Lochbaum Director, Nuclear Safety Project

www.ucsusa.org

July 26, 2016

Topics

NRC's Safety Culture Goal vs. Reality

NRC's Safety Conscious Work Environment Goal vs. Reality

Climate is Changing in the Wrong Direction

Need for Changing this Climate

Safety Culture Goal

"The NRC defines nuclear safety culture as the core values and behaviors resulting from a collective commitment by leaders and individuals to emphasize safety over competing goals to ensure protection of people and the environment."

Source: NRC Safety Culture Policy Statement

Safety Culture As-is

"Compared to 2009, NRC has significantly decreased in eight categories, including Differing Views processes, Engagement, Empowerment and Respect, ..., NRC Mission & Strategic Plan, ... Elevating Concerns ..."

Safety Culture As-is

"Quality Focus: ... a larger portion of participants feel that great pressure is put on meeting metrics rather than on producing quality work"

Safety Culture As-is

"Open Collaborative Work **Environment: Although participants** think NRC has a collective mind-set for a collaborative work environment, many do not think this mind-set actually translates into collaborate working conditions. Participants feel that values such as openness and collaboration are no longer practiced."

Safety Conscious Work Environment Goal

"A safety conscious work environment is maintained where personnel feel free to raise safety concerns without fear of retaliation, intimidation, harassment or discrimination."

Source: NRC Safety Culture Policy Statement

"Elevating Concerns and Empowerment: ... Other employees feel that although there is a strong encouragement to elevate concerns, it is stigmatizing to actually do so."

"Differing Views Processes: ... A majority of participants feel the non-concurrence program was put in place only to document disagreements and are concerned that if you disagree with your manager it can, and most likely will, affect your career path and advancement."

"... many of the [non-concurrence program] submitters believed they experienced some type of negative consequence as a result of submitting a non-concurrence.

"75 percent believed that their performance evaluations were adversely affected, 63 percent felt they were excluded from work activities, and 25 percent thought they were passed over for career development."

Source: 2014 Non-Concurrence Process Assessment (ML14056A294)

6% of 209 workers exiting the NRC said that dissatisfaction with inaction by the agency was a factor in their decision to leave

4% of the 209 workers exiting the NRC said that fear of reprisal for raising a differing view was a factor in their decision to leave

Source: NRC Exit Survey (April 2015 – March 2016) (ML16109A345)

Climate Change in Wrong Direction

"Differing View Processes:
Assesses employee awareness and perceived effectiveness of the Differing Professional Opinions and the Nonconcurrence process."

2015: 47% Total Favorable Score

2012: 50% Total Favorable Score

Climate Change in Wrong Direction

"Quality Focus: Evaluates employees' perception of NRC safety culture, how safe they feel at work, and NRC's commitment to public safety."

2015: 51% Total Favorable Score

2012: 54% Total Favorable Score

Perception Gap

	Overall	SES*
Differing Views	47	81
Quality Focus	51	77
Elevating Concerns	60	89

^{*} It's hard to solve problems you don't see.

"I can disclose a suspected violation of any law, rule or regulation without fear of reprisal"

2015: 74.8%

2010: 80.2%"

"I am frequently worried about the following impacting the future of the NRC:

Nuclear Events 13%

Project AIM 50%"

"I believe the results of this survey will be used to make my agency a better place to work"

2015: 56.4%

2010: 72.2%"

"I believe the results of this survey will be used to make my agency a better place to work"

2015: 56.4% Please prove them wrong!

2010: 72.2%"