

Stakeholder Involvement in Nuclear issues

Workshop: Milestones for Nuclear Power Infrastructure Development
November 5-9, 2007

- Why Stakeholders are an important part of your nuclear Programme
- INSAG-20, Stakeholder Involvement in Nuclear Issues

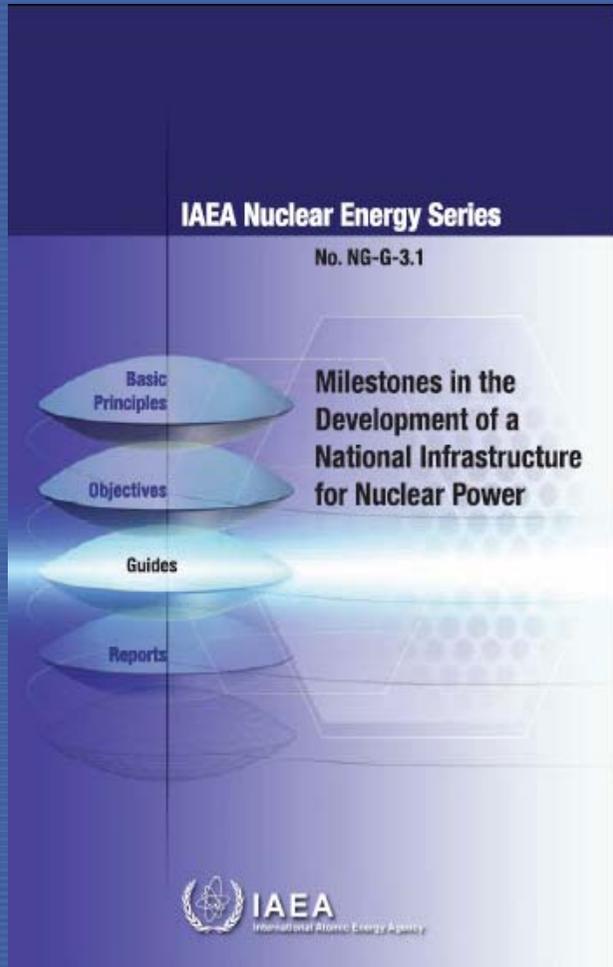
E. Weinstein
Senior Officer
Department of Nuclear
Installation Safety and Security
IAEA



IAEA

International Atomic Energy Agency

Milestones in the Development of a National Infrastructure for Nuclear Power

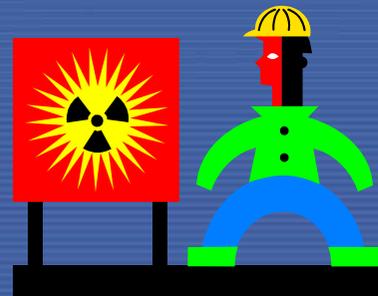


Section 3.11 Stakeholder Involvement

Page 44 - 46

BASIS FOR KNOWN PUBLIC CONCERN

In general, at the heart of the public's concern is often an unwillingness to delegate power to centralized authority, and a general scepticism related to science. What stakeholders want is greater consistency and proportionality in nuclear and radiological interactions and clearer channels for communicating concerns and accessing the information that is provided to them.

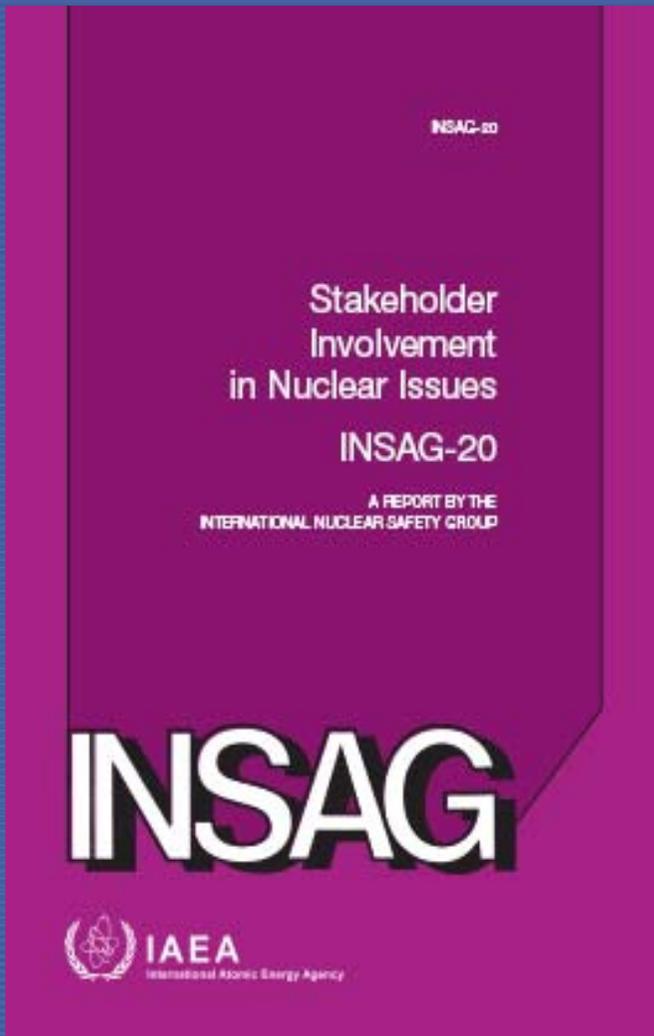


STAKEHOLDER COMMUNICATION CORE VALUES



- to disseminate information to all stakeholders in both routine and emergency circumstances.
- to be attentive to and address public concerns in an open and transparent manner.
- to maintain public trust and confidence by keeping people informed of safety standards and related information and how they are enforced.
- to facilitate the decision making process on nuclear matters by presenting safety related factual information in a timely, clear, and consistent manner.
- to integrate and maintain an information network to exchange and share information at the international level.
- to improve co-operation with Member States and international organizations on nuclear and radiological safety related matters.
- to encourage the dissemination of factual information on nuclear radiation related matters to the general public through every reasonable means.
- to establish effective engagement and communications processes which are reliable and sustainable.
- to establish a strong dynamic communication culture within the national and international nuclear and radiological community.

INSAG-20 Stakeholder Involvement in Nuclear Issues



Available along with other
INSAG documents related to nuclear safety
On the INSAG's Website.

<http://www-ns.iaea.org/committees/insag.asp>

What is INSAG?

- The International Nuclear Safety Group (INSAG), constituted in 1985, is a group of experts with high professional competence in the field of nuclear safety working in regulatory organizations, research and academic institutions, and the nuclear industry.



INSAG – 20 Purpose

- To advocate open, transparent, factual, timely, informative, and easily understandable multilateral communications among members of society and those operating or developing a nuclear or radiological project
- To establish that substantive stakeholder communications contribute to the safe operations of nuclear or radiological projects

INSAG – 20 Purpose (2)

- To present the major attributes of an effective communications programme
- Discusses ways and means for the efficient and rational involvement of stakeholders in the consideration of nuclear issues

INSAG – 20 contains

- Information on the safety relevance of stakeholder involvement
- Information relevant to both regulators and operators
- Information on the importance of credibility
- Vehicles to encourage participation by stakeholders in decision making processes
- Examples

What is a Stakeholder?

- Stakeholders are defined as those who have a specific interest in a given issue or decision.
- This group can include the general public.
- There are normally two types of stakeholders: internal and external and each plays a vital role.
- Internal stakeholders are those involved in the decision making process.
- External stakeholders are most often affected by the potential outcome of the project, either directly, or emotionally.

What is the safety relevance of stakeholder involvement?

- Operators and regulators confronted with questions and concerns from stakeholders may have to re-examine the basis for previous decisions.
- Stakeholder involvement may result in attention to issues that otherwise might escape scrutiny.
- Continuing opportunities for dialogue can serve as a basis for positive communications when problems occur.



Recognition of important concepts

- In no case should the public's ability to comprehend issues be underestimated or used as an excuse to withhold information
- The aim of an effective stakeholder involvement programme is NOT to gain consensus
- A timely opportunity for affected stakeholders to provide input can expedite the decision making process
- Reasonable issues and concerns that are presented by stakeholders should be factored into decisions.
- Stakeholder involvement should be pursued consistent with societal and cultural norms from the first Phase of a nuclear programme throughout decommissioning.

Credibility

- It is your most important communications asset
- It is very easy to lose
- Once lost, it is very difficult to regain



Conclusions

- Public participation in decisions can promote a greater degree of understanding and can ensure a more reasonable appreciation of risks and benefits.
- While opportunities for public participation in decisions may vary from country to country, it is still recommended that all countries create instruments that enhance stakeholder involvement, to the degree possible.
- Stakeholder involvement can provide substantial improvement in safety and enhance the general acceptance of the ultimate decision taken.

Conclusions (2)

- The obligation to inform and include stakeholders is not always clearly stated or well developed within a Member State's legal framework.
- It is recommended that relevant institutions and authorities establish procedures for meaningful interaction with stakeholders.
- It is recommended that the IAEA and OECD/NEA continue to pursue ways to enhance and improve stakeholder involvement in their areas of interest.

Thank you for your attention

