

# Natural Phenomena Hazards (NPH) Implications for DOE Nuclear Facilities

Kevin J. Coppersmith, Ph.D.  
Coppersmith Consulting, Inc.

# Overview

- ▶ Step through five lessons learned as related to natural hazard analysis
  - ▶ Lessons track with IAEA preliminary findings
  - ▶ Will show examples to illustrate approaches to addressing the lessons
  - ▶ Goal is to provide a basis for path forward: subject of tomorrow's break-out session
- 

# Context for Lessons Learned

- ▶ Not based on a detailed knowledge of Japan's practices regarding NPH and specific application at Fukushima–Daiichi
  - ▶ Some conclusions come from IAEA review, others from personal observation
  - ▶ Not a statement that “Japan did it wrong”
  - ▶ Not a statement that “DOE does it right”
  - ▶ Lessons reinforce observations made previously from other events
  - ▶ Goal: enhance our practices and safety
- 

# IAEA Preliminary Conclusions



**IAEA**  
International Atomic Energy Agency

## **IAEA INTERNATIONAL FACT FINDING EXPERT MISSION OF THE NUCLEAR ACCIDENT FOLLOWING THE GREAT EAST JAPAN EARTHQUAKE AND TSUNAMI**

**Tokyo, Fukushima Dai-ichi NPP, Fukushima Dai-ni NPP and  
Tokai NPP, Japan**

*24 May- 1 June 2011*

**Preliminary Summary**

# NPH Lessons Learned

- ▶ Lesson #1: Probabilistic hazard criteria should be explicit and risk-informed
  - Risk definition
  - Performance goals provide foundation for design hazard levels

# Hazard

-Rate of ground motions,  
expressed as annual  
frequency

X

# Consequence

-Response or loss given a  
certain level of hazard

=

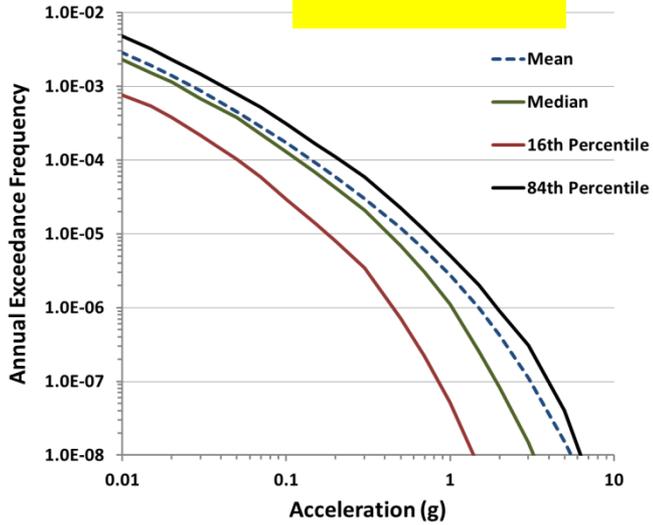
# Risk

-Rate of loss, expressed as  
annual frequency

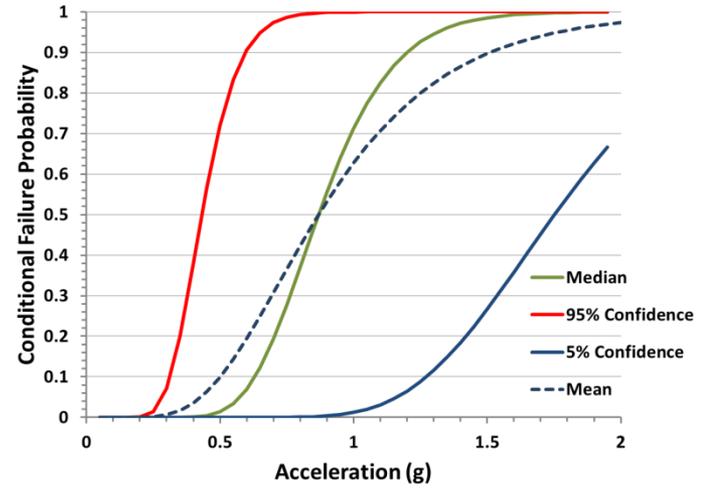
# Risk Definition

- ▶ Risk is expressed as *rate* of loss, which comes from the probabilistic treatment of the hazard
  - ▶ Rate (annual frequency, probability, chances) is essential to meaningful expression of risk
  - ▶ Otherwise, consequence is not qualified by its chances of occurring
- 

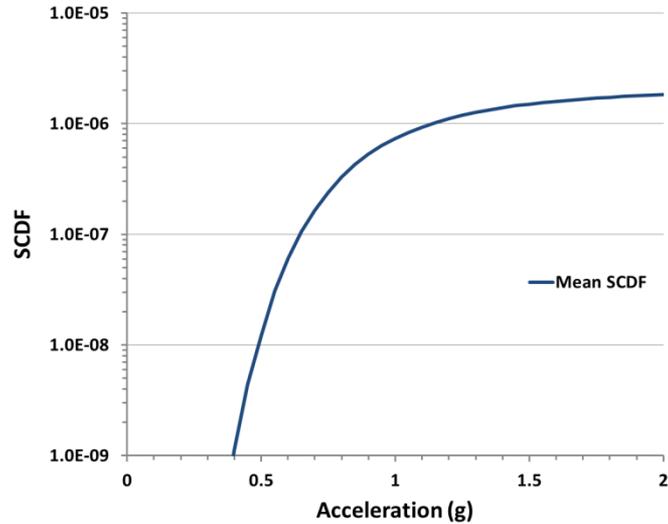
# Hazard



# Seismic Fragility $\alpha=0.25, \beta_U=0.35$



# Mean Seismic CDF

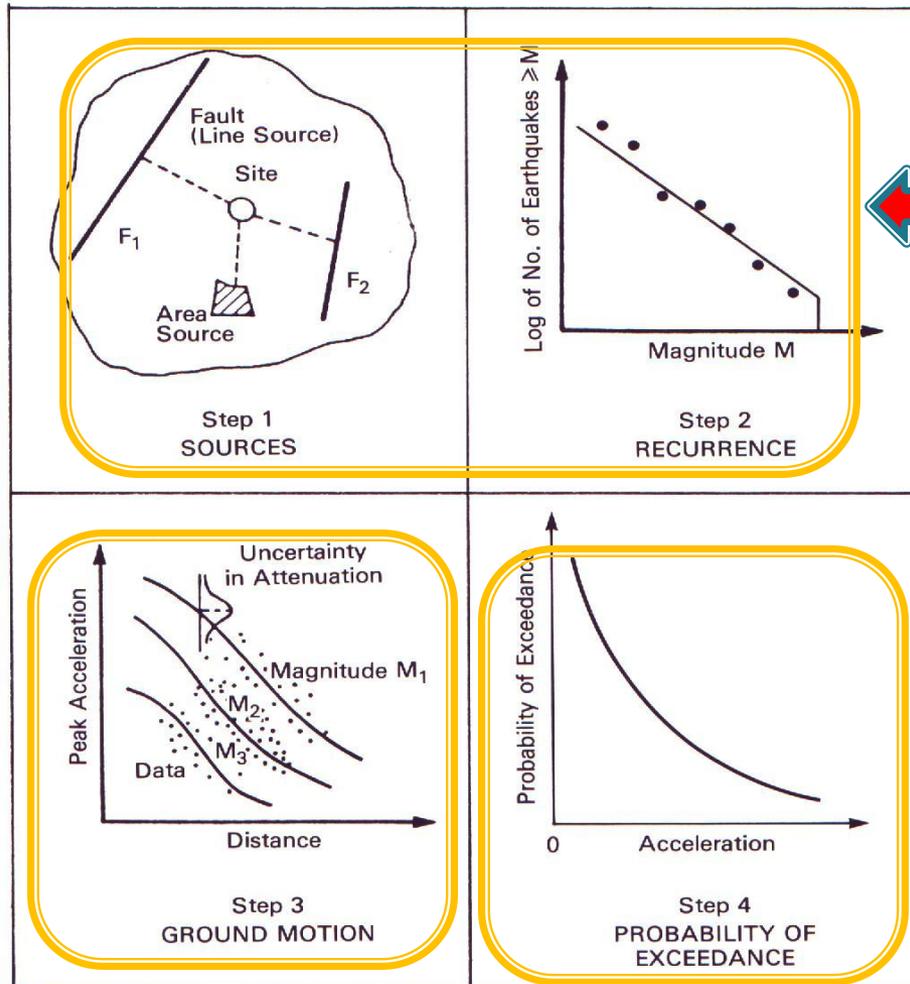


# Probabilistic Seismic Hazard Analysis (PSHA)

Seismic Source  
Characterization:  
SSC Model

Source  
Geometry

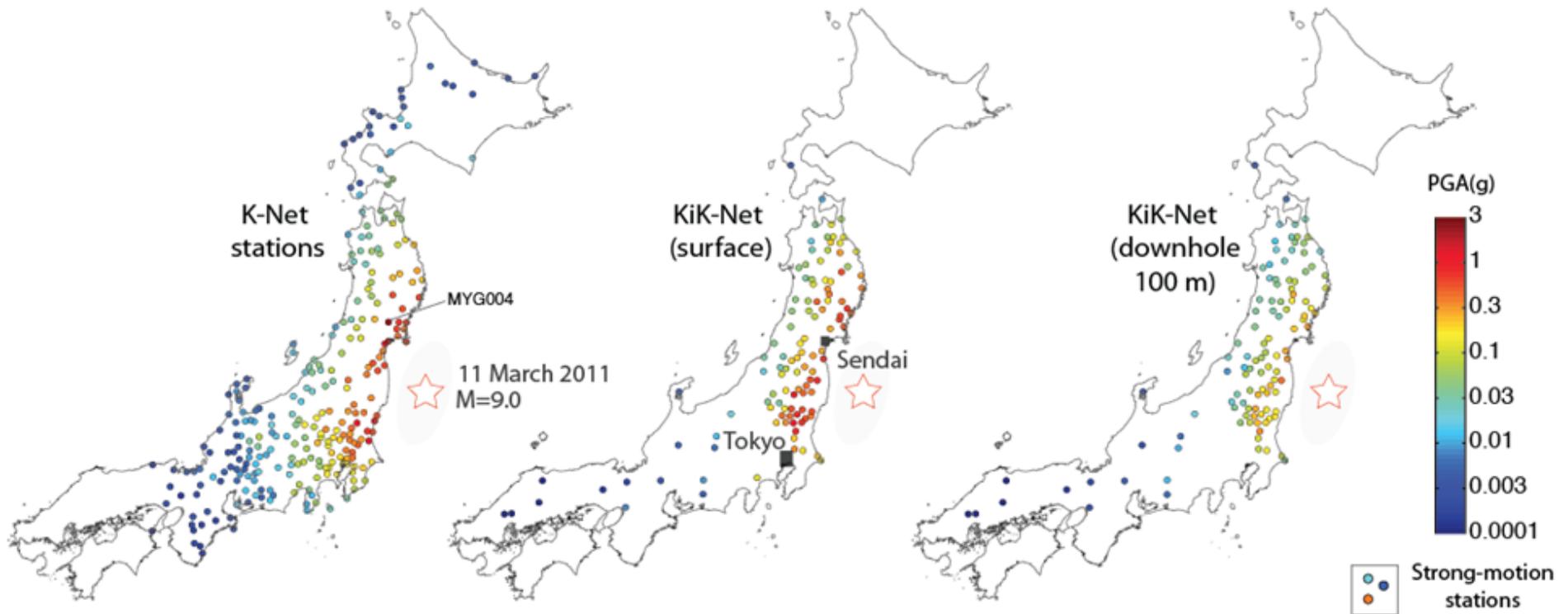
Ground Motion  
Characterization:  
GMC Model



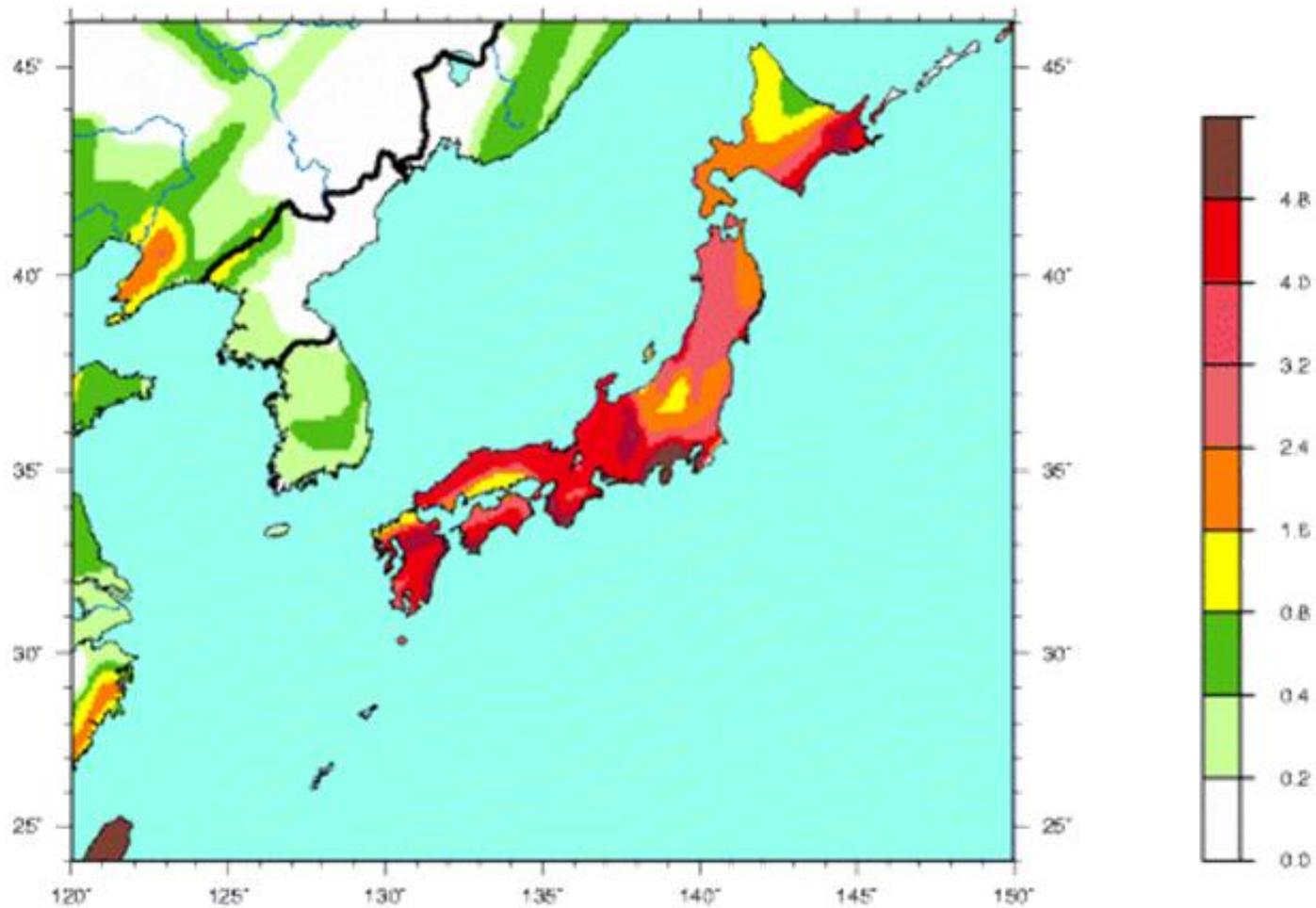
Earthquake  
Recurrence

Seismic Hazard  
Curve

# Peak Ground Motion Acceleration (PGA) of the 11 March 2011 Tohoku M=9.0 earthquake



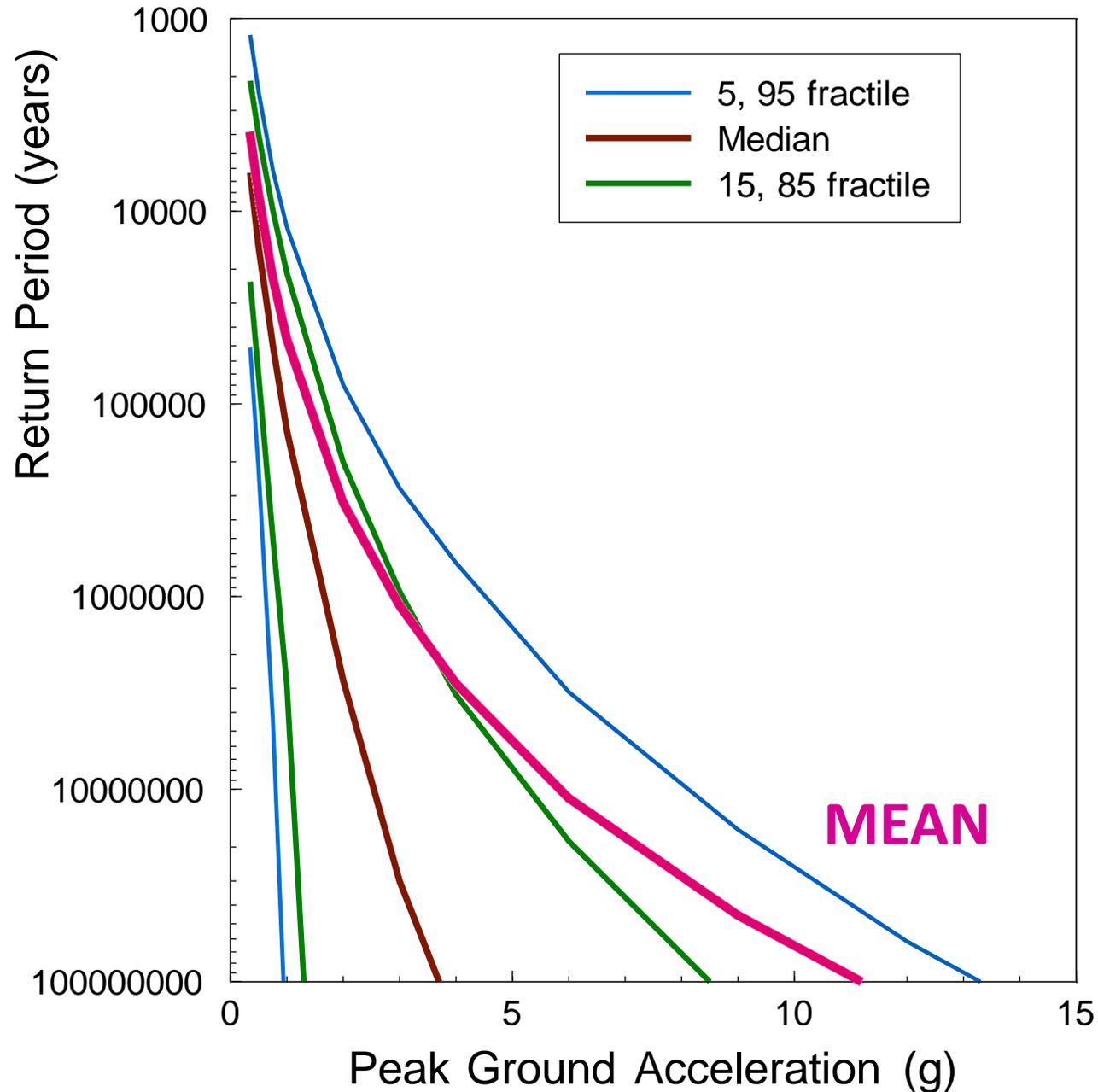
Maximum PGA of 2.7g was recorded at Miyagi Prefecture



**Peak Ground Acceleration ( $m/s^2$ ) with 10% Probability of Exceedance in 50 Years**

# Probabilistic Hazard Approach

- ▶ Explicitly incorporates the rate of occurrence
  - ▶ Provides for the incorporation of uncertainties
  - ▶ Mean hazard has become the metric of interest
  - ▶ Lognormal distribution of seismic hazard is skewed, thus mean is usually well above the median
- 



Where do we enter the mean hazard curve for design?

## DOE

Variety of nuclear facilities

- DOE Order (O) 420.1C, *Facility Safety*
- DOE-STD-1020-2002: *NPH Analysis and Design Criteria*
- ANSI/ANS-2.26-2004, *Categorization of Nuclear Facility Structures, Systems, and Components for Seismic Design.*
- ANSI/ANS-2.27-2008, *Criteria for Investigation of Nuclear Facility Sites for Seismic Hazard Assessment*
- ANSI/ANS-2.29-2008, *Probabilistic Seismic Hazards Analysis*

## NRC

Nuclear power plants

- 10 CFR 100.23 *Geologic and Seismic Siting Criteria*
- 10 CFR Part 50, App. S, *Design Bases for Protection Against Natural Phenomena*
- RG 1.208 *A Performance-Based Approach to Define the Site-Specific Earthquake Ground Motion*
- NUREG/CR-6728: *Risk Consistent Design Spectra*
- NUREG/CR-6372: *PSHA: Guidance on Uncertainty and Use of Experts*

## ASCE/SEI Standard-43-05

*Seismic Design Criteria for Structures, Systems, and Components in Nuclear Facilities*

# ASCE/SEI Standard 43-05

- ▶ Performance-based approach to ensure facility achieves desired performance
  - ▶ Tells us where to enter the mean hazard curve to achieve a desired performance objective and, in turn, to mitigate defined dose consequence
- 

# ASCE/SEI Standard 43-05 (cont'd.)

Table 2-1 Seismic Design Basis (SDB)

SDC	Limit State			
	A Large Permanent Distortion (Short of Collapse)	B Moderate Permanent Distortion	C Limited Permanent Distortion	D Essentially Elastic
1	SDB-1A	SDB-1B	SDB-1C	SDB-1D
2	SDB-2A	SDB-2B	SDB-2C	SDB-2D
3	SDB-3A	SDB-3B	SDB-3C	SDB-3D
4	SDB-4A	SDB-4B	SDB-4C	SDB-4D
5	SDB-5A	SDB-5B	SDB-5C	SDB-5D

SDC is the Seismic Design Category

Nuclear Power Plants

# ASCE/SEI Standard 43-05 (cont'd.)

Table 2-2 Earthquake Design Parameters for SDC 3, 4 & 5

	SDC		
	3	4	5
Target Performance Goal ( $P_F$ )	$1 \times 10^{-4}$	$4 \times 10^{-5}$	$1 \times 10^{-5}$
Probability Ratio ( $R_P$ )	4	10	10
Hazard Exceedance Probability ( $H_D$ ) $H_D = R_P \times P_F$	$4 \times 10^{-4}$	$4 \times 10^{-4}$	$1 \times 10^{-4}$

FOSID Criterion in RG 1.208  
Achieves SCDF of  $\sim 10^{-6}$

# IAEA: Regulatory Process

- ▶ *Nuclear regulatory systems ...should ensure that regulatory independence and clarity of roles are preserved in all circumstances in line with IAEA Safety Standards.*
- ▶ -IAEA, 2011

# NPH Lessons Learned

- ▶ Lesson #2. An explicit, open process should be used in conducting hazard analyses and defining design bases
  - The public is represented by regulators and review groups
  - Regulatory confidence is essential to public trust
  - DOE, NRC, and utilities have developed guidance for conducting hazard analyses:
    - NUREG/CR-6372: Senior Seismic Hazard Analysis Committee (SSHAC)
    - ANSI/ANS-2.29-2008: Probabilistic Seismic Hazard Analysis

# What is a SSHAC process?

**A structured framework  
and procedure for  
conducting multiple-  
expert assessments of  
input to PSHA**

Prepared by  
Senior Seismic Hazard Analysis Committee (SSHAC)  
R. J. Budnitz (Chairman), G. Apostolakis, D. M. Boore, L. S. Cluff, K. J. Coppersmith, C. A. Cornell, P. A. Morris

**Procedures defined by  
the Senior Seismic  
Hazard Analysis  
Committee (SSHAC)**

NUREG/CR-6372  
UCRL-ID-122160  
Vol. 1

Recommendations for  
Probabilistic Seismic Hazard  
Analysis: Guidance on  
Uncertainty and Use of Experts

Main Report

Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory

Identical process given  
in ANSI/ANS-2.29-2008

Prepared for  
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission  
U.S. Department of Energy  
Electric Power Research Institute

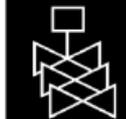
# Key Features of a SSHAC Process

## Goals:

1. Systematic consideration of all data, models, and methods within the larger technical community
2. Represent the center, body, and range of technically defensible interpretations

## SSHAC Provides an Accepted Assessment Process

- SSHAC formed to deal with issues of common concern to multiple users of PSHA: NRC, DOE, and EPRI
- Four Study Levels: Levels 3 and 4 for nuclear facilities
- Regulatory Guide 1.208
- ANSI/ANS-2.29-2008
- Detailed implementation guidance for SSHAC Level 3 and 4 projects being developed by NRC



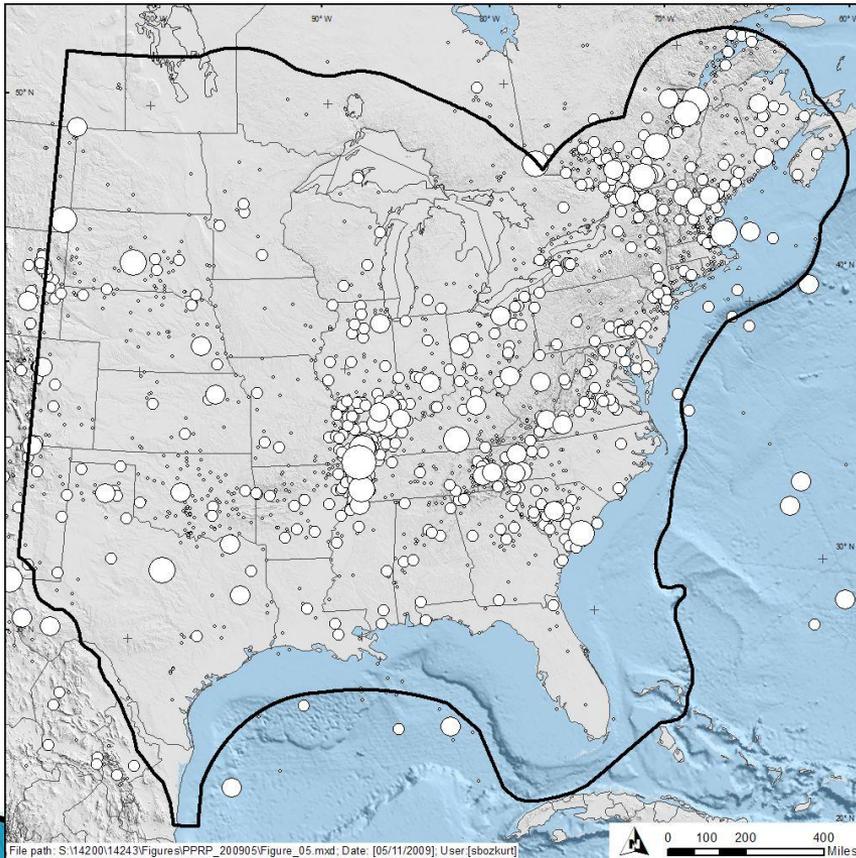
**Practical Implementation  
Guidelines for SSHAC  
Level 3 and 4 Hazard Studies**

**Draft for Comment**

U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission  
Office of Nuclear Regulatory Research  
Washington, DC 20555-0001



# Central and Eastern United States Seismic Source Characterization for Nuclear Facilities Project



## CEUS SSC for Nuclear Facilities (2008–2011)

- ▶ Purpose: to provide a *regional seismic source model* for use in PSHA for nuclear facilities
- ▶ Replaces previous regional seismic source models developed by industry and NRC
- ▶ SSHAC Level 3 methodology: high confidence that uncertainties have been properly addressed and that the views of the technical community have been considered.

# IAEA: Rare Events

- ▶ *Nuclear regulatory systems should address extreme external events adequately, including their periodic review...in line with IAEA Safety Standards.*

▶ -IAEA, 2011

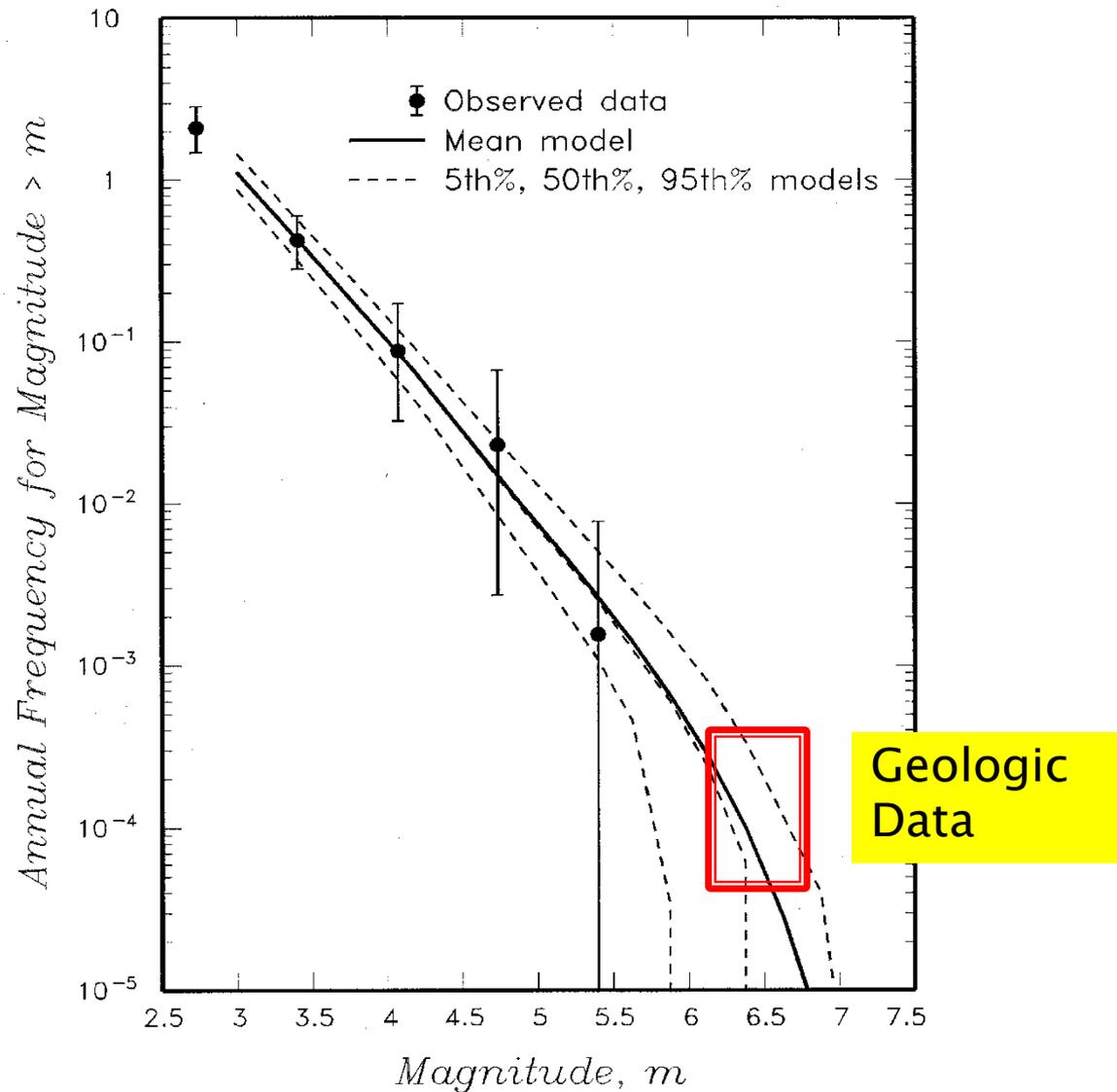
# NPH Lessons Learned

- ▶ Lesson #3. The full suite of historical and prehistorical occurrences should be considered in the hazard analysis; uncertainties should be incorporated

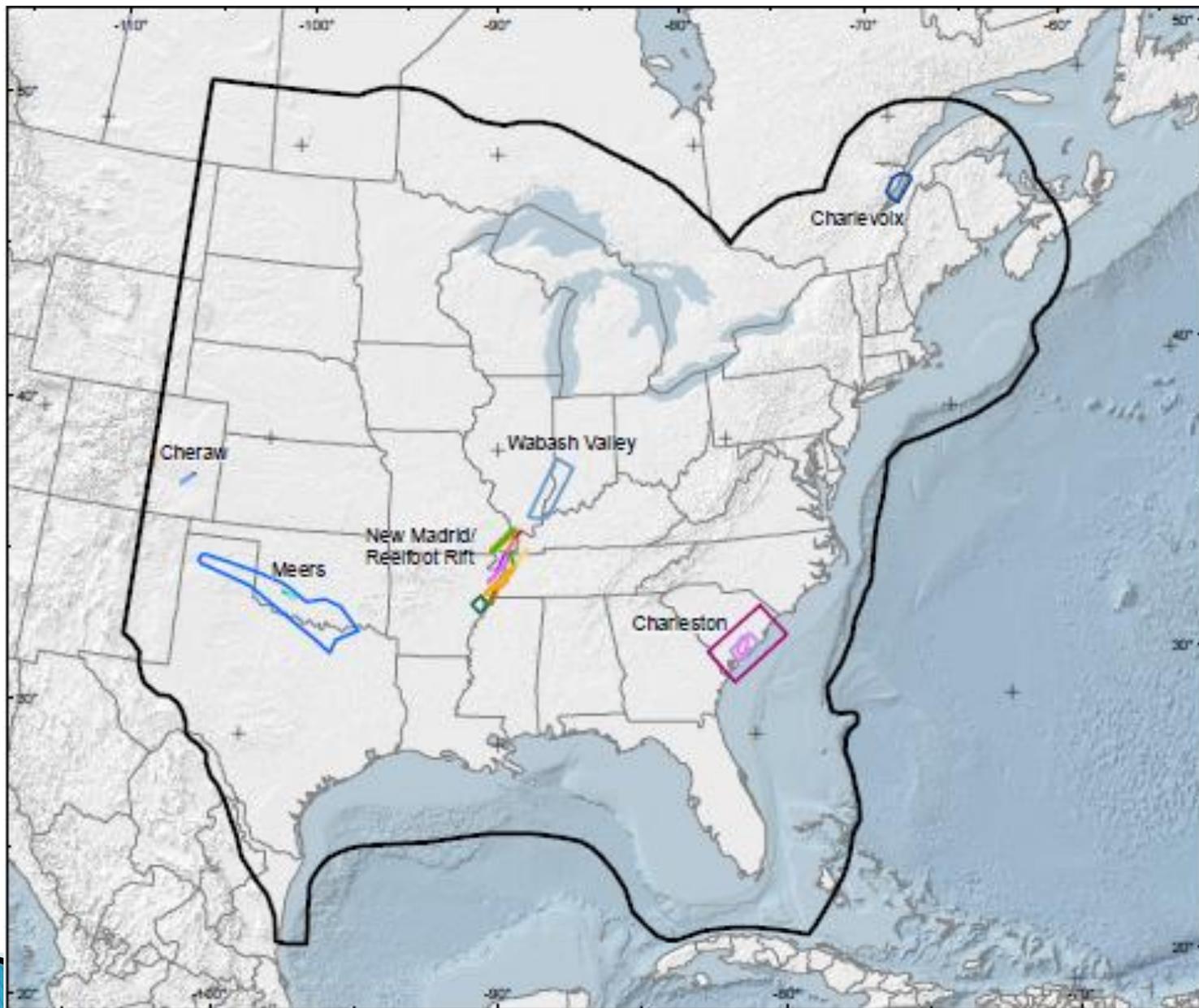
Comparison of observed earthquake frequency with predicted recurrence rates

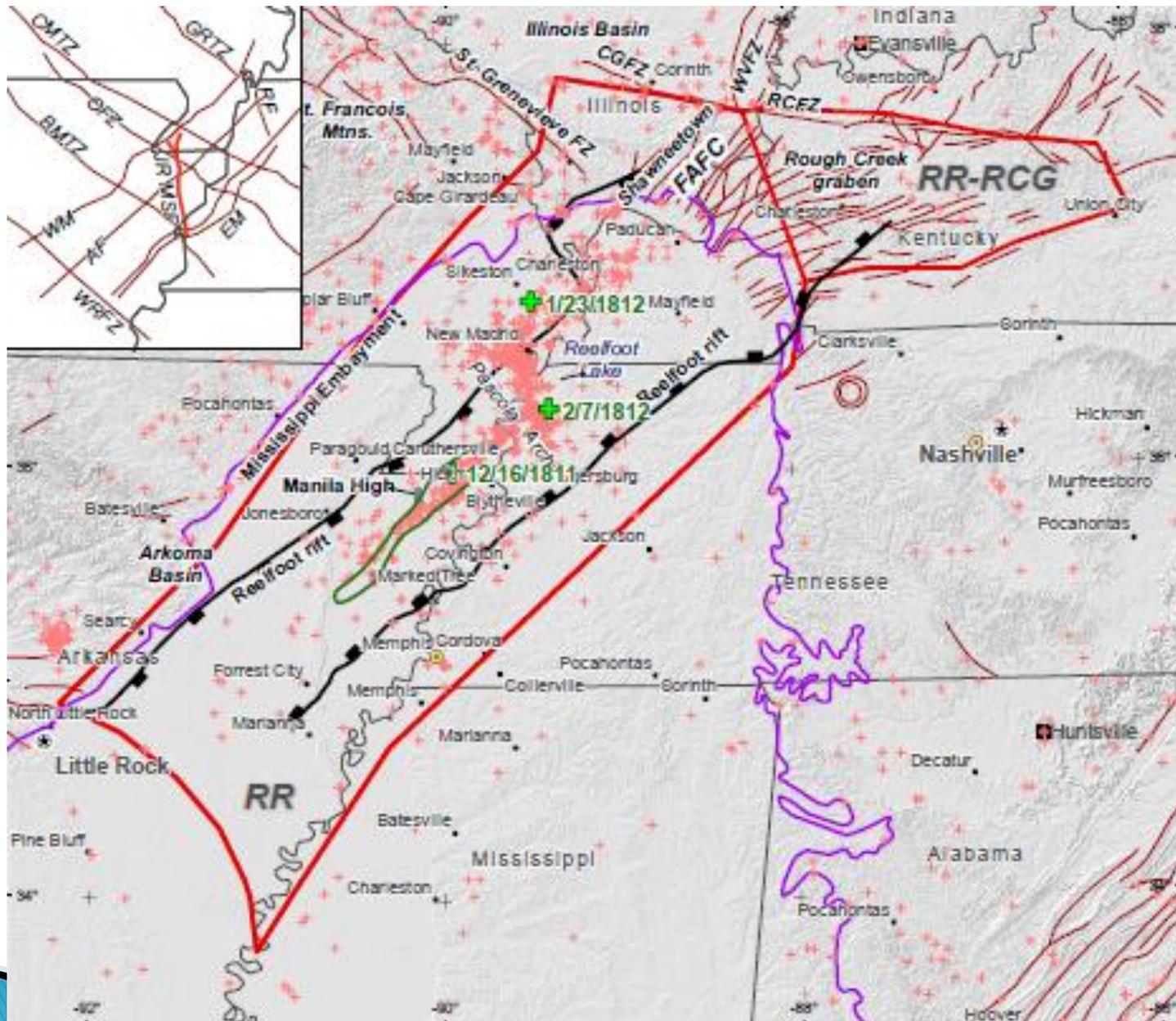
### Implications for US

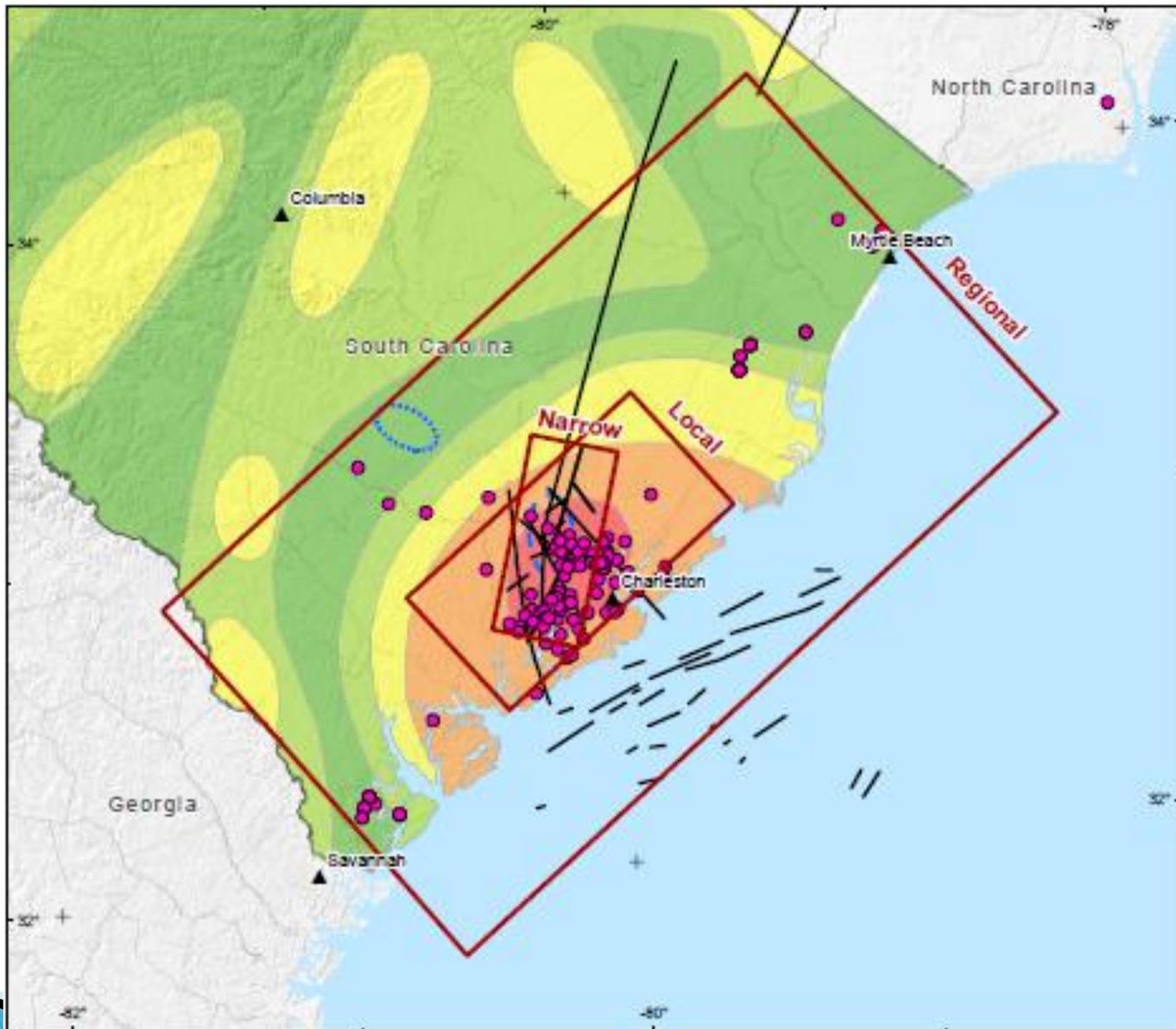
- Most of US has short historical record (<250 yrs)
- Most is low activity
- Probability that have seen extreme, rare events is low
- Increasing reliance on geologic record and physical models



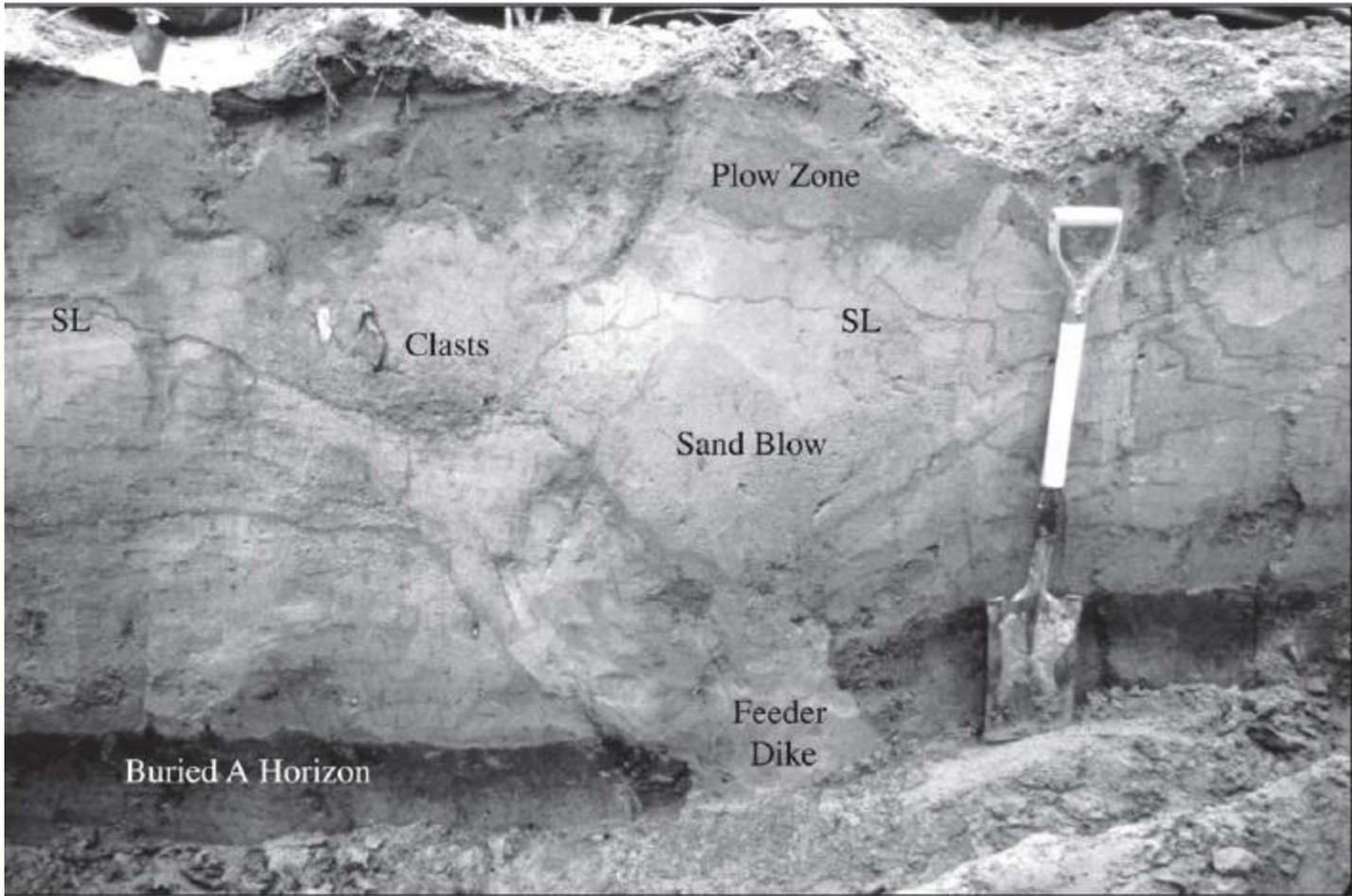














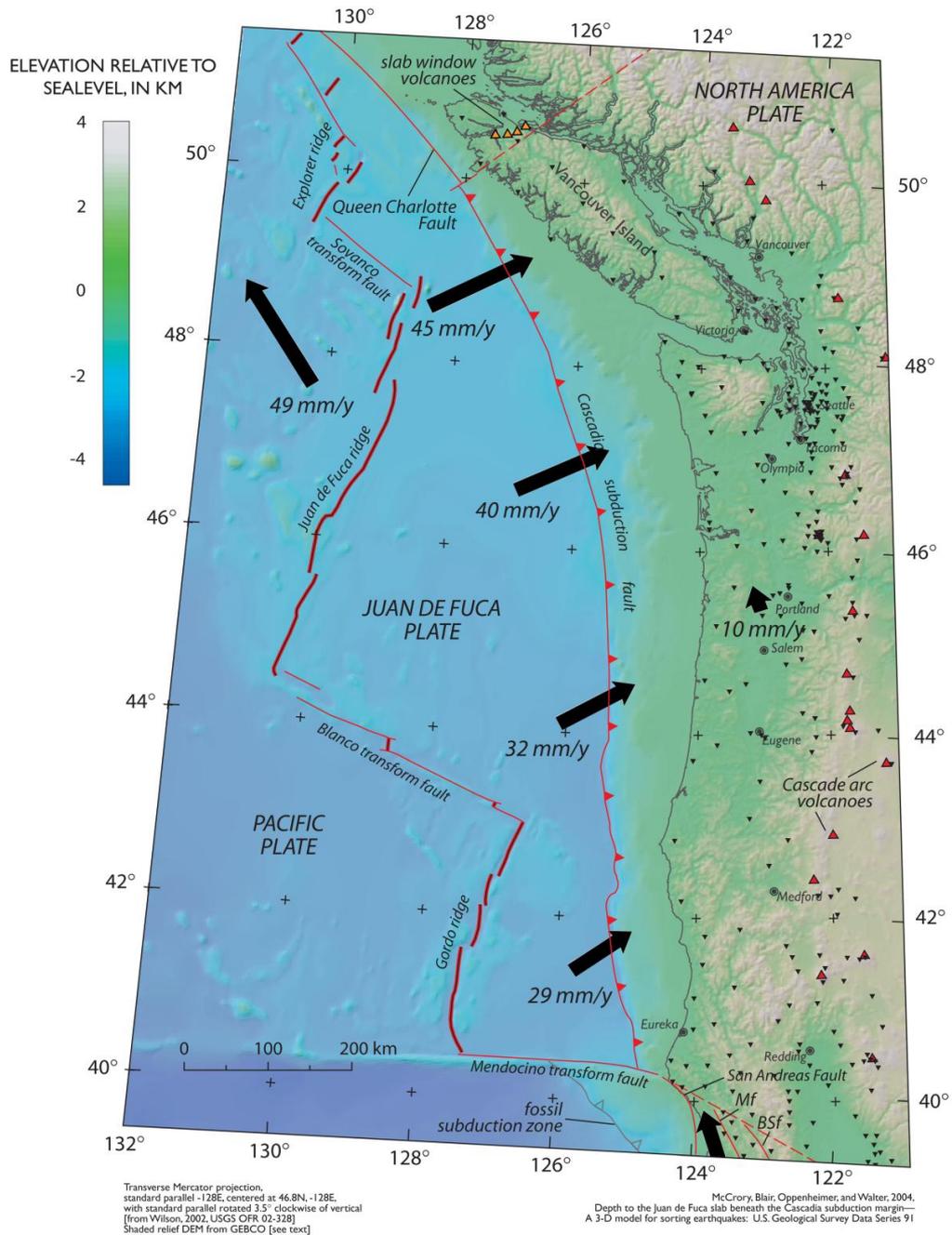
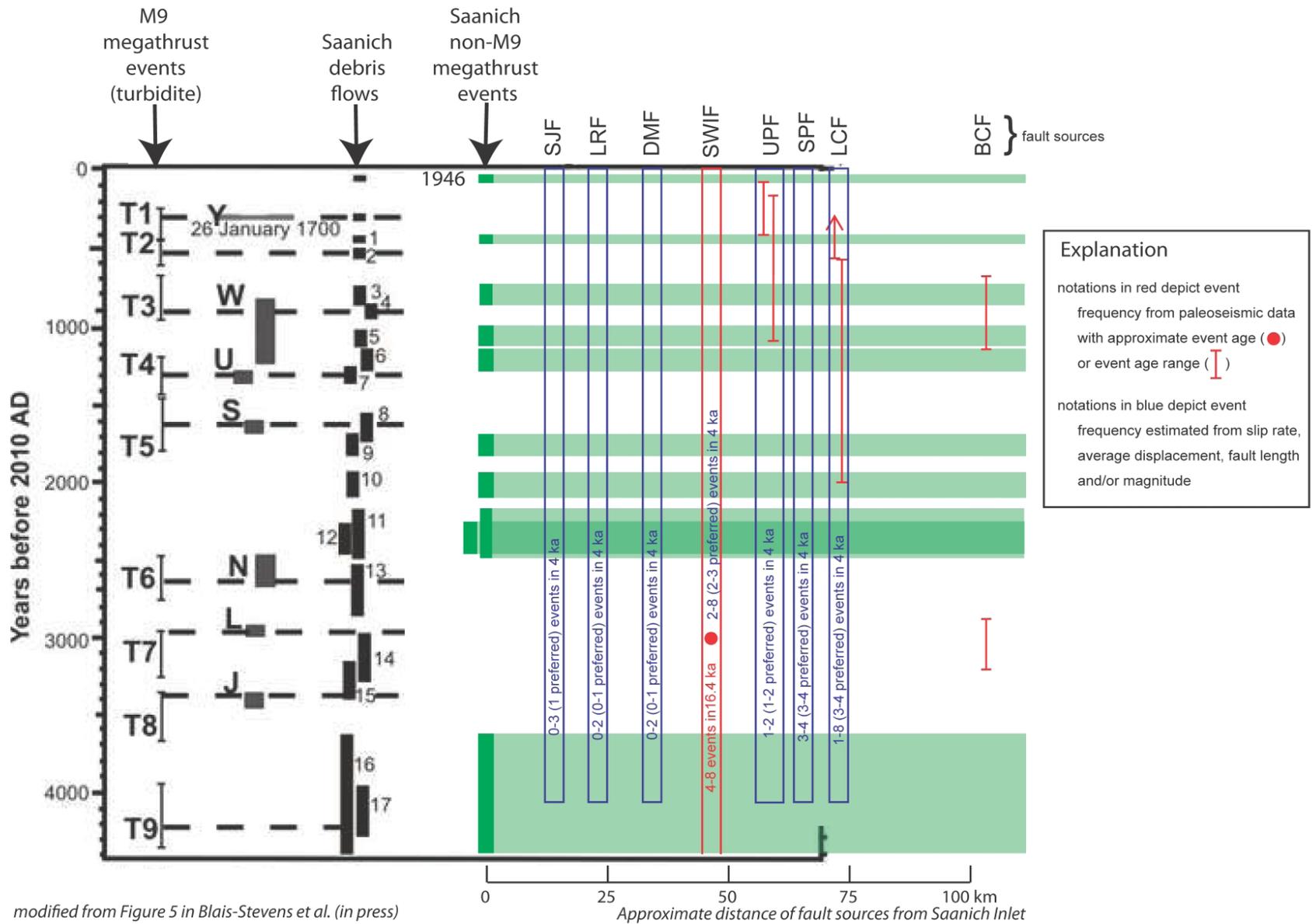


FIGURE 1



Fault source abbreviations: SJF - Skipjack fault; LRF - Leech River fault; DMF - Devils Mountain fault; SWIF - South Whidbey Island fault; UPF - Utsalady Point fault; SPF - Strawberry Point fault; LCF - Lake Creek-Boundary Creek-Little River fault; BCF - Boulder Creek fault

# IAEA: Updating Hazard Assessments

- ▶ *The tsunami hazard for several sites was underestimated. Nuclear designers and operators should appropriately evaluate and provide protection against the risks of all natural hazards, and should periodically update these assessments and assessment methodologies in light of new information, experience and understanding.*
- ▶ -IAEA, 2011

# NPH Lessons Learned

- ▶ Lesson #4. A process for updating hazard analyses in light of new data, models, and methods must be implemented
  - DOE Order 420.1B
  - ANSI/ANS-2.29-2008
  - NRC approach

# Fixed Term Review of Need to Update

- ▶ DOE Order 420.1B
  - *3. REQUIREMENTS.*
    - *c. NPH Assessment.*
    - *(4) An NPH assessment review must be conducted at least every 10 years and must include recommendations to DOE for updating the existing assessments based on significant changes found in methods or data. If no change is warranted from the earlier assessment, then this only needs to be documented.*
- ▶ Note:
  - Review is required, not reassessment
  - “Significant change” is not defined

# ANSI/ANS- 2.29-2008 on Updating Existing study

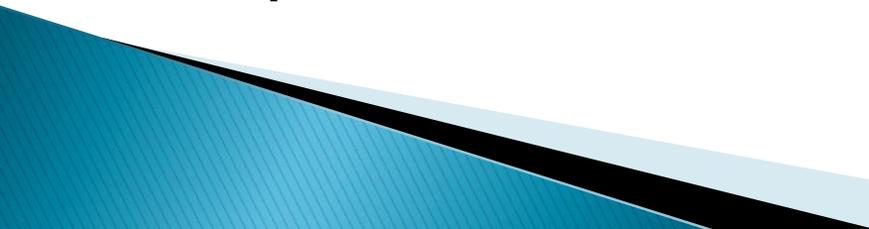
- ▶ 4.1 High Level Requirements
- ▶ “...the PSHA analyst may have the option to use an existing seismic study as a starting point for a site-specific assessment.”
- ▶ HLR-A: Scope
  - “The assessment of the frequency of earthquake ground motions at a site shall be based on a PSHA that considers the epistemic uncertainty in the analysis inputs and that reflects the composite distribution of the informed technical community. The level of the analysis shall be determined based on the intended application of the PSHA results and on site-specific complexity (see Sec. 4.3). For PSHA levels 3 and 4, the analysis shall include a site-specific detailed analysis.”
- ▶ HLR-B: Data collection
  - [develop a comprehensive up-to-date database per ANSI/ANS-2.27-2008]

# ANSI/ANS- 2.29-2008 on Updating Existing study (cont'd.)

- ▶ HLR-C: Seismic source characterization
- ▶ HLR-D: Ground motion characterization
- ▶ HLR-E: Local site effects
- ▶ HLR-F: Quantification
  - [Epistemic and aleatory uncertainties included in each element of PSHA]
- ▶ HLR-G: Use of existing studies
  - “When use is made of an existing study for PSHA purposes, it shall be confirmed that the basic data and scientific interpretations in the original analysis are still valid in light of current information, the study meets the requirements outlined in HLR-A through HLR-F above, and the study is suitable for the intended application.”

Tracks well with IAEA recommendation

# NRC Approach to Updating

- ▶ In the past, relied on updates related to new licensing, regional studies (e.g., EPRI-SOG, LLNL) conducted in the 1980s
  - ▶ Recent COLAs have highlighted the need for updating
  - ▶ CEUS SSC project and NGA-East projects will update Eastern US using SSHAC Level 3
  - ▶ GI-199 may lead to updates of western site seismic hazard assessments (DCPP)
  - ▶ Guidance being developed: defines when to replace, revise, refine, accept existing study
- 

# Draft NRC Recommendations Regarding Updating Hazard Assessments for Nuclear Facilities

Existing Study	Condition of Existing Study	Hazard Assessment Needed	Recommendation	SSHAC Level for New Study
No study, or previous studies conducted at lower SSHAC Levels (2 or 1), or non-SSHAC studies	Not adequate for nuclear/critical facilities	Regional and/or site-specific	Conduct new study	3 or 4
Regional or site-specific	Not viable <u>and</u> hazard results expected to be significantly different	Regional and/or site-specific	Replace existing study	3 or 4
Regional or site-specific	Not viable <u>but</u> hazard results not expected to be significantly different	Regional and/or site-specific	Revise existing study	2, 3, or 4
Regional, no site-specific	Viable	Site-specific	Refine regional study locally consistent with RG 1.208 and ANSI/ANC-2.27-2008	2, 3, or 4

<sup>[1]</sup> “Viable” is defined as: (1) based on a consideration of data, models, and methods in the larger technical community, and (2) representative of the center, body, and range of technically defensible interpretations.

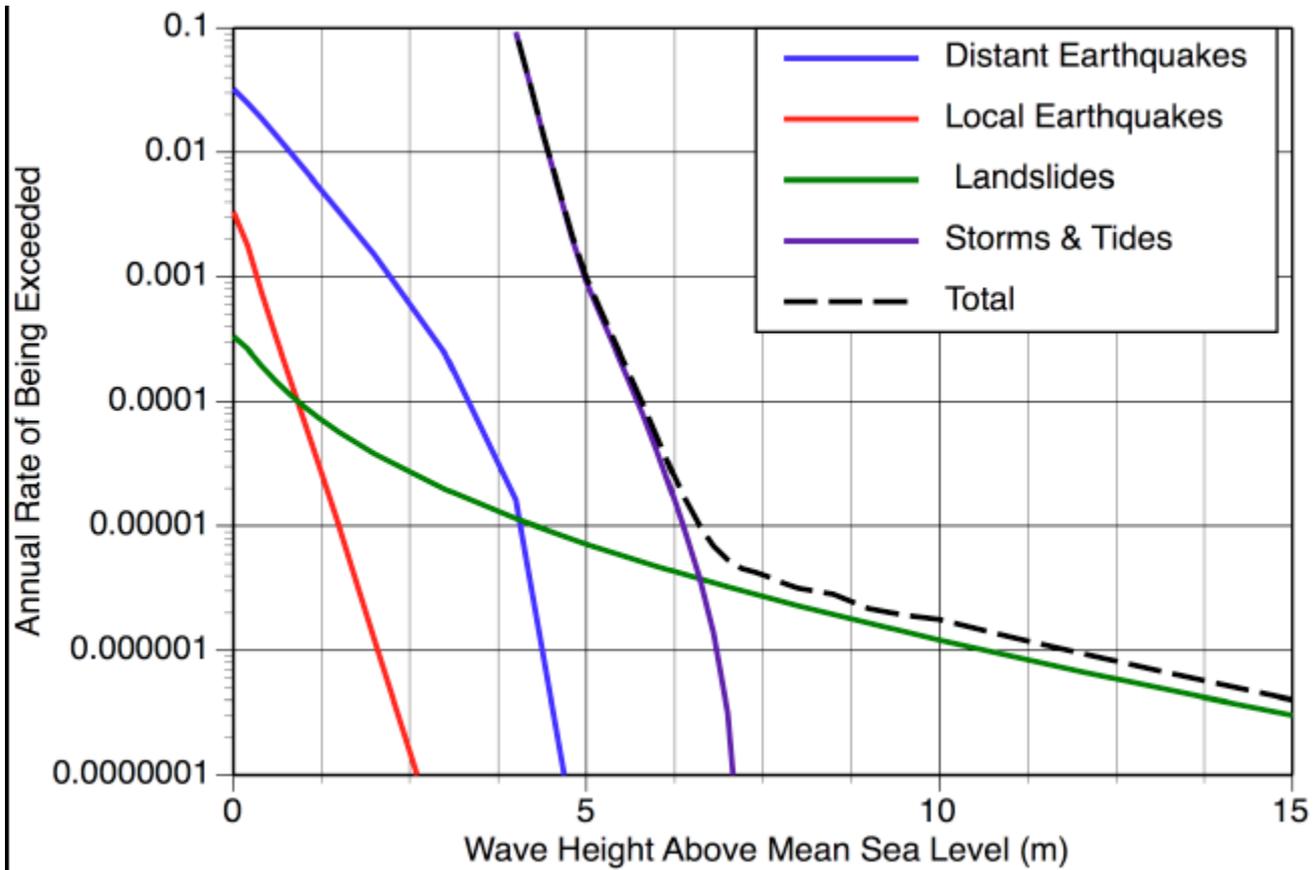
# IAEA: Combinations of Hazards

- ▶ *Severe long term combinations of external events should be adequately covered in design, operations, resourcing and emergency arrangements.*

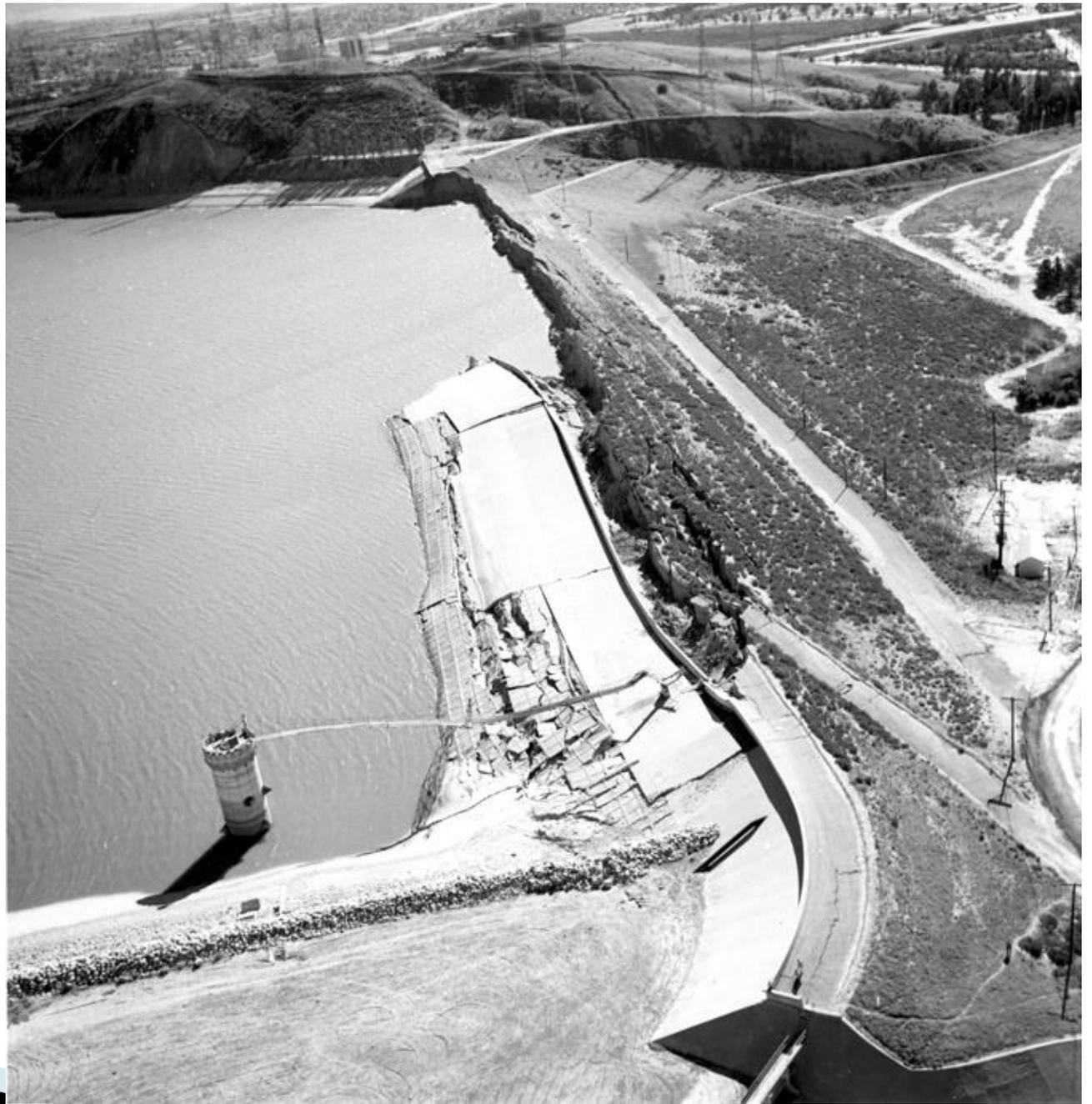
▶ -IAEA, 2011

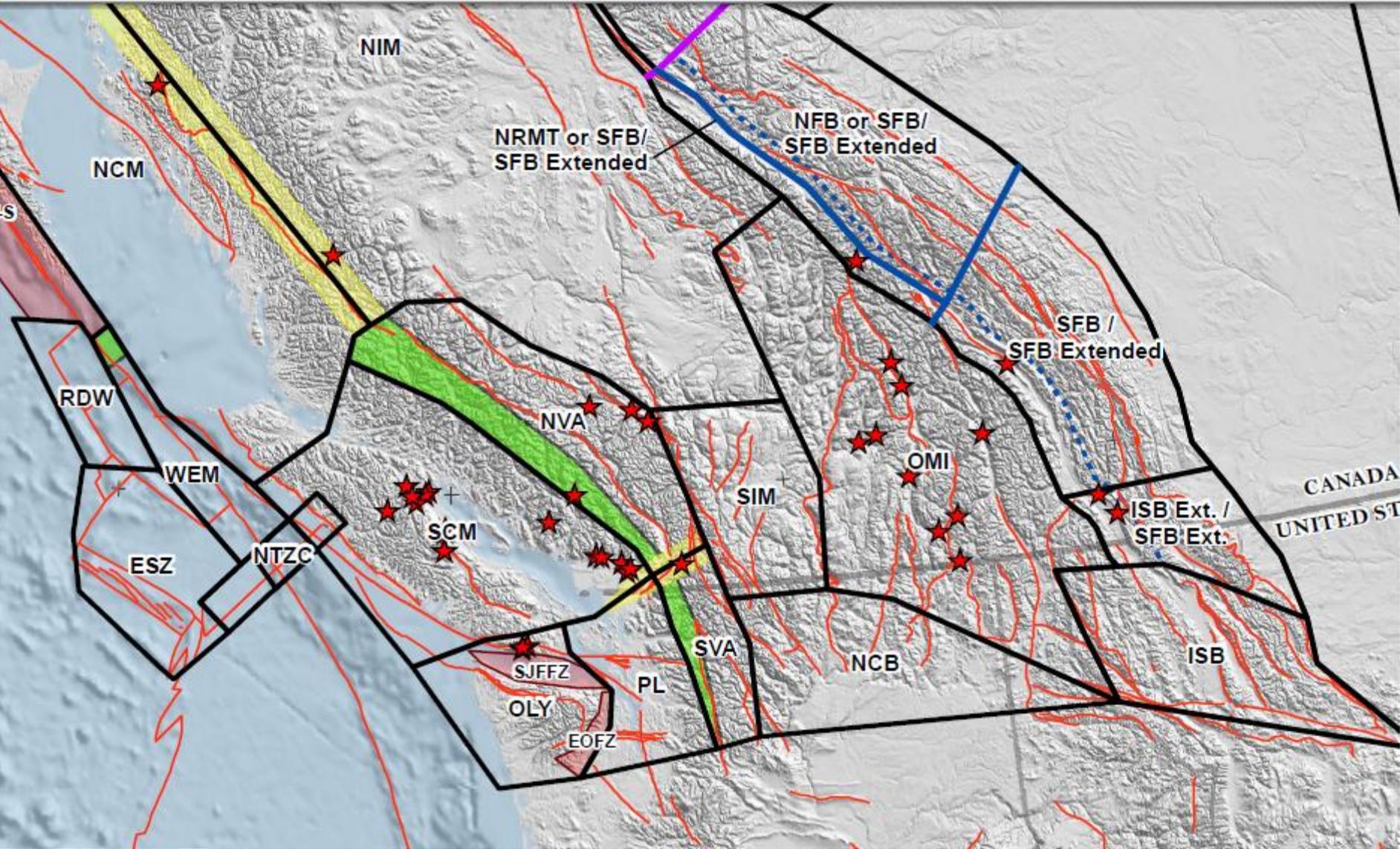
# NPH Lessons Learned

- ▶ Lesson #5. Combinations of hazards must be considered, along with their joint probabilities of occurrence
  - Examples
    - Earthquakes and tsunami (subduction-related)
    - Earthquakes and tsunami (landslide-related)
    - Earthquakes and flooding
    - Wind, flooding, and storm surge
  - Dependencies raise their joint probability



San Fernando,  
California,  
Earthquake  
February 1971.  
Lower Van Norman  
Dam







# Conclusions

- ▶ Lessons learned regarding NPH hazard assessments reinforce good practice
  - Risk-informed probabilistic design criteria
  - Open process for hazard analysis
  - Use all data to characterize rare events
  - Define and implement process for updating
  - Consider hazard combinations
- ▶ DOE, NRC, and Industry have made strides in these areas
- ▶ Fukushima–Daiichi lessons provide focus and urgency to ongoing efforts