

08/16/01

SWSOPI Self-Assessment

IP 40501: reduced-scope NRC inspections take credit for LSAs.

LSAs for licensees with demonstrated good performance.

NRC reviews LSA proposal, including scope and personnel qualifications.

LSA and reduced-scope SWSOPIs complementary to provide equivalent of full-scope SWSOPI.

Reduced scope SWSOPI included (1) in-process inspection of LSA regarding scope/depth, objectivity/independence, and operability issues, and (2) sampling inspection of significant areas addressed in LSA and those not, and licensee corrective actions.

SWSOPI LSAs generally thorough and performed by highly qualified teams.

NRC resources for reduced scope SWSOPIs varied from 25-50% of full-scope SWSOPI due to learning curve and site circumstances.

Reduced-scope SWSOPIs lessened burden on licensees to support NRC inspectors (locating documents and answering questions).

Above savings to licensee counter-balanced by resources to perform LSA.

Notwithstanding resources, licensees favor LSAs based on requests to perform 23 SWSOPI LSAs and LSAs in other inspection areas (e.g. engineering).

LSA beneficial due to licensee ownership of findings and corrective actions.