

RIC 2002

Session W6

Reactor Oversight Process (ROP)
Pennsylvania's Perspective

Richard R. Janati

Chief

Division of Nuclear Safety

Bureau of Radiation Protection

Date: March 6, 2002



NRC Non-Green Findings for PA Plants (April 2000 – February 2002)

Total Number of "White" Findings	9
Inspection Findings (SDP results)	6
PI Findings	3



Performance Indicators (PIs)

- Integration of PIs into the ROP is a positive aspect of the new process.
 - PIs are actual plant data and objective criteria for evaluating plant performance.
 - The public is able to review and scrutinize the PIs.
 - PIs can (and have) helped licensees focus their attention on areas or programs that may need improvements.
 - The basis for setting PI thresholds are inconsistent. Some PIs and their associated thresholds do not directly correlate with risk.
 - NRC is encouraged to expedite the development of the risk-based PIs.



Significant Determination Process (SDP)

- SDP has contributed to improved communications between NRC and licensees regarding the issues that are risk-significant.
- The unnecessary challenges to the SDP “non-green” findings are declining.
- SDP is a complex and complicated process.
- NRC should communicate more effectively the basis for risk significant determination.
- NRC response time continues to be slow for some issues or findings.



Enforcement

- Limited experience with the new NRC Enforcement Process.
- Regulatory conferences sometimes focus more on the enforcement and corrective actions rather than on the determination of the risk significance of the issues.