

June 5, 2002

MEMORANDUM TO: Patrick Baranowsky, Chief  
Operating Experience Risk Analysis Branch  
Division of Risk Analysis and Applications  
Office of Nuclear Regulatory Research

FROM: Bennett Brady *Original signed by*  
Operating Experience Risk Analysis Branch  
Division of Risk Analysis and Applications  
Office of Nuclear Regulatory Research

SUBJECT: SUMMARY OF EPIX AD HOC WORKING GROUP MEETING,  
MAY 16, 2002

I represented the NRC at a meeting of the EPIX Ad Hoc Working Group on May 16 at INPO Headquarters in Atlanta. The list of attendees and agenda for the meeting are shown in Attachments 1 and 2. In brief summary, the major items of interest to NRC staff were:

- **Proposed ROP Unavailability/Unreliability Indicators**
  - INPO will discuss with NEI changing the EPIX reliability reporting requirement to the NRC proposal, i.e., to report ESF demands and run hours for the current ROP Safety System Unavailability Performance Indicator systems.
  - ESF demands and run hours will be used in the pilot of the proposed ROP mitigating system performance indicator (MGPI) unreliability index.
  - NRC will also use ESF demands and run hours for estimating component and system reliability for the Industry Trends Program and SPAR models.
  - INPO will also investigate if the current EPIX design can support the use of “estimated operational demands and run hours” and the definitions of fail to start and fail to run as currently proposed for the ROP MGPI unreliability index.
- **March 27, 2002 EPIX Data Review Meeting**
  - Senior utility executives have questioned whether it is still of benefit to the industry to continue to participate in EPIX.
  - NEI’s Nuclear Strategic Issues Advisory Committee (NSIAC) held a special EPIX data review meeting on March 27 to discuss whether the system adds sufficient benefit to offset data entry costs.
  - During the discussion of that meeting, the EPIX Ad Hoc Working Group noted that:
    - ▶ Attendees at EPIX meetings tend to be more EPIX coordinators than utility end users.
    - ▶ EPIX is not providing information to support utilities in preventive maintenance optimization and PSA/PRA applications.

- ▶ Feedback has typically been anecdotal from senior executives (plant managers, site VPs, CNOs).
  - ▶ There is no clearly identified “customer”
  - ▶ Reporting inconsistencies present significant problems.
- As recommended by NSIAC, INPO will:
  - ▶ Examine Working Group composition to ensure sufficient end-user representation,
  - ▶ Conduct a survey of utility personnel to get more feedback from end users on EPIX’s purpose and problems with output reports and data input, and
  - ▶ Add a “feedback” button on the input or output EPIX web pages for users to add comments.
- **EPIX Mission**
  - The March 27 NSIAC meeting also questioned the mission of EPIX and the need to focus on the basic mission of EPIX.
  - In 1999 when it was decided to consolidate industry reporting in a single system, the EPIX mission was changed to:
    - “Make EPIX the industry’s single, common reporting system for all performance indicators (including availability and reliability data) and equipment failure information to support goal setting, performance monitoring, performance trending, plant-to-plant comparisons, and system and component engineering information exchange.”
  - Now, the above mission is closer to that of Consolidated Data Entry.
  - INPO proposed to change the EPIX mission to:
    - “Promote excellence in equipment performance through the sharing of system and component operating experience.”
- **Other feedback on EPIX Usage**
  - INPO mentioned as an example of EPIX usage a paper written by Steve Eide, INEEL, for publication that uses EPIX data to compute generic component failure rates.

Attachments: As stated

cc: G. Welch, INPO  
G. Masters, INPO

MEMORANDUM DATED: 6/5/02

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EPIX AD HOC WORKING GROUP MEETING

May 16, 2002

Attendees

Bennett Brady	NRC
Tony Brooks	INPO
Ron Burns	Vogtle
Matthew Caragher	Fermi
Larry Elgass	Hatch
George Felgate	INPO
Julie Gadzinski	Kewaunee
Tim Geib	INPO
Ernie Hite	Duke Poser
Kim Hulsey	INPO
Stanley Levinson	Framatome ANP
Jim Maddox	Watts Bar
Jim Merced	Comanche Peak
Jim Nurrenbern	Callaway
Mike Polishak	South Texas
John Ramsdale	San Onofre
Pam Sargent	Nine Mile Point
Rich Slone	INPO
Mike Strait	Exelon
George Welsh	INPO

	<p style="text-align: right;"><b>Ad Hoc Working Group Meeting Agenda</b>  <b>May 16, 2002</b>  <b>Room 202 A&amp;B</b></p>
<b>0800</b>	Welcome / Introductions – Gary Welsh
<b>0805 - 810</b>	Review Agenda - Gary Welsh
<b>0810 - 0900</b>	March 27, 2002 EPIX Data Review Meeting – Gary Welsh
<b>0900 - 0915</b>	Proposed EPIX Mission - Gary Welsh
<b>0915 - 0930</b>	Break
<b>0930 - 1000</b>	Working Group Composition (User Needs) – Gary Welsh
<b>1000 - 1030</b>	Proposed User Survey - Gary Welsh
<b>1030 - 1045</b>	Break
<b>1045 - 1115</b>	CDE 2.0 Unavailability Reporting Process - Rich Slone
<b>1115 - 1145</b>	ROP Unavailability/Unreliability Indicators Gary Welsh
<b>1145 - 1230</b>	Lunch
<b>1230 - 1245</b>	CDE 2.0 Software Interface Demonstration - Tim Geib
<b>1245 - 1315</b>	Batch Input/Extraction Capacity - Gary Welsh
<b>1230 - 1245</b>	EPRI Interactions - Gary Welsh/Marty Bridges
<b>1245 - 1320</b>	Break
<b>1320 - 1345</b>	Duke's Use of EPIX in System Health Reports - Ernie Hite
<b>1345 - 1400</b>	Break
<b>1400 - 1420</b>	Other Feedback on EPIX Usage - Gary Welsh
<b>1430 - 1500</b>	Review Action Items from November 2001 Meeting and Action Items from this Meeting - Gary Welsh
<b>1530</b>	Adjourn

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