

April 27, 2004

MEMORANDUM TO: James W. Andersen, Chief
Performance Assessment Section
Inspection Program Branch
Division of Inspection Program Management
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

FROM: John W. Thompson, Senior Reactor Operations Engineer
Inspection Program Branch
Division of Inspection Program Management
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

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SUBJECT: PUBLIC MEETING SUMMARY ON THE MITIGATING SYSTEMS
PERFORMANCE INDEX AND THE REACTOR OVERSIGHT
PROCESS MONTHLY MEETING HELD ON APRIL 22, 2004

On April 22, 2004, an Reactor Oversight Process (ROP) public meeting was held at the One White Flint North Building, Room O5B4. Attachment 1 contains the attendance list and Attachment 2 contains the agenda topics for the meeting.

During the meeting, the staff discussed the status of the Mitigating Systems Performance Index (MSPI). The staff stated that it plans to document its detailed concerns with the piloted MSPI and share them with all interested stakeholders. The staff will then conduct a public meeting on MSPI to discuss the concerns. The staff also stated that it would follow the Commission's direction to consider creative and practical approaches to find a risk-informed replacement for the Safety System Unavailability Performance Indicator (PI). This would be a modified version of MSPI, or an approach different from MSPI. Industry expressed a desire to engage the staff on the detailed concerns with MSPI and that it would like to try to revise MSPI that would address the issues that could be implemented before moving on to a different approach. The staff indicated that the concerns were documented, at a high level, in SECY-04-0053, "Reactor Oversight Process Self-Assessment for Calendar Year 2003," which was publically available. The staff also indicated that it will continue to work with industry to address the issues and concerns with the MSPI and would get back to them in a couple of days as to the arrangements for the next meeting.

Meeting participants also discussed potential improvements to the Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs) process for performance indicators (PIs). The staff discussed the areas of concern with its ability to resolve open FAQs, particularly those pertaining to the Scrams with Loss of Normal Heat Removal PI, as documented in its March 16, 2004, letter to the Nuclear Energy Institute (NEI). In response, NEI provided a draft outline of how to improve the FAQ process (Attachment 5) and stated that although not addressed in their draft outline of the FAQ process, NEI thought that the Division Director of Inspection Program Management (DIPM) in the Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation should have the final decision authority on FAQ outcomes. The staff committed to provide comments on the industry's FAQ proposal by the May 2004 ROP public meeting.

Meeting participants also discussed Significance Determination Process (SDP) timeliness issues and a proposal for a SDP public workshop (Attachment 10), emergency preparedness drill response participation FAQs, and differences in reportable occurrences of safety system functional failures reported under the safety system functional failure (SSFF) PI.

The next meeting of the ROP Working Group is scheduled for May 27, 2004.

- Attachments:
1. Attendance List for April 22, 2004
 2. ROP Meeting Agenda
 3. EP DRO PI slide 1
 4. EP DRO PI slide 2
 5. Draft NEI 99-02, Appendix E FAQ Process
 6. EP Draft FAQ
 7. FAQ 37.9
 8. SSFF Reconciliation
 9. FAQ Log for April 22, 2004
 10. SDP Untimeliness Public Workshop Objectives

Meeting participants also discussed Significance Determination Process (SDP) timeliness issues and a proposal for a SDP public workshop (Attachment 10), emergency preparedness drill response participation FAQs, and differences in reportable occurrences of safety system functional failures reported under the safety system functional failure (SSFF) PI.

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DISTRIBUTION:

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Package Number: ML041170147

Accession Number: ML041170021(MEMO) Attachments 1, 2 and 10

ML041170410 Scanned Attachments 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8 and 9

OFFICE	DIPM/IIPB
NAME	JWThompson
DATE	04/26/04

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ATTENDANCE LIST
INDUSTRY/STAFF ROP PUBLIC MEETING
April 22, 2004

	NAME	AFFILIATION
1.	John Thompson	NRC
2.	Stuart Richards	NRC
3.	Greg Gibson	SCE
4.	Donald Dube	NRC
5.	Tony Pietrangelo	NEI
6.	Jim Andersen	NRC
7.	Rick Thomas	Entergy
8.	Thomas C. Houghton	NEI
9.	Robert Kahler	NRC
10.	Deann Raleigh	Scientech
11.	Alan Nelson	NEI
12.	Robin Ritzman	PSEG
13.	Lee Keller	Duke
14.	Bill Mookhoek	STP/NOC
15.	Audrey Klett	NRC
16.	Susan Ferrell	TVA
17.	Jenny Weil	McGraw-Hill

ROP MONTHLY WORKING GROUP MEETING
AGENDA
April 22, 2004
OWFN 5B4

- 9:00 a.m. Welcome and Introduction
- 9:05 a.m. Discussion on Proposed Draft SDP Changes and Update on a Proposed Public SDP Workshop
- 9:45 a.m. Discussion of Action Matrix Graded Reset Questions Listed in the Federal Register Notice on ROP Experience
- 10:00 a.m. Discussion of Two EP ERO Participation PI FAQs
- 10:15 a.m. Public Discussion & Break
- 10:30 a.m. Discussion on Barrier Integrity PIs
- 11:00 a.m. MSPI issues
- 11:30 a.m. Discussion of Improvements to the FAQ Process
- 12:00 p.m. Break for Lunch
- 1:00 p.m. Discussion of PI FAQs
- 2:15 p.m. Public Discussion & Break
- 2:30 p.m. Continue Discussion of PI FAQs
- 4:00 p.m. Adjourn

SDP Untimeliness Public Workshop Objectives

- 1) To identify the most common factors causing SDP untimeliness, from both the NRC and licensee perspectives.
- 2) To determine if the SDP objectives, as stated in IMC 0609, are understandable and commonly understood, or could be modified to be more clear.
- 3) To determine what obstacles might exist to achieving the SDP objective of more efficient and effective communication, particularly regarding the use of probabilistic risk analysis.
- 4) To identify either NRC or industry strategies or specific methods to address the factors most causing untimely SDP results.