

Revised Project Plan

Task 1: Identify the NRC's needs for expert judgment and determine the scope of the guidance.

Activities in this task include the following:

1. Develop a white paper describing current NRC practices, issues, and potential future use of expert judgment. This paper will serve as a pre-survey tool to ensure completeness.
2. Interview selected NRC staff in various offices on applications involving the use of formal expert judgment, lessons learned and good practices, the expert judgment constraint factors, and specific needs for expert judgment guidance.
3. Based on Item 2, identify issues that the guidance should address and describe inconsistencies in the use of expert judgment.
4. Review existing guidance and literature on expert judgment and synthesize a list of issues that the new guidance needs to address.
5. Establish the scope of the expert judgment guidance.

Estimated performance period: FY12

Estimated resource needed: 3 staff months

Task 2: Develop the draft expert judgment guidance

Based on the outcome of Task 1, the staff will develop the draft guidance through the following activities:

1. Analyze the strengths and weaknesses of the NRC's expert judgment guidance.
2. Synthesize the strengths to develop baseline guidance as defined by one set of guidance (e.g., NUREG-2117, NUREG-1150, and NUREG-5424) to address important, prototypical situations (e.g., PIRT, probability estimation).
3. Based on the preceding analysis, develop improvements to address important weaknesses and the issues identified in Task 1.
4. Use the new HRA method (IDHEAS) development project as a test bed to evaluate and iteratively revise the draft guidance.

Estimated performance period: FY12-13

Estimated resource needed: 9 staff months

Enclosure

Task 3: Pilot the draft guidance in the Level 3 PRA project

To coordinate with the timeline of the Level 3 PRA project, the staff will start with baseline guidance developed from Task 2 and use it to address important prototypical situations, and then develop improvements to address important weaknesses and specific needs.

The plan for piloting the draft guidance in the Level 3 PRA project includes the following activities:

1. The staff will tailor the initial baseline guidance developed from Task 2 to specific needs of expert judgment activities in the Level 3 PRA project and incorporate the development into the full draft guidance.
2. As the full draft guidance is completed, Level 3 PRA project staff will select areas to pilot the draft.
3. The staff will work with the Level 3 PRA team to apply the draft guidance in selected expert judgment activities. Staff may revise some guidelines through the elicitation process.
4. The staff will document the process and lessons learned from the piloting activities.

Estimated performance period: FY13-14

Estimated resource needed: 8 staff months

Task 4: Refine the draft guidance and produce the final guidance as a NUREG document

The activities for this last stage of the guidance development include the following:

1. Refine the draft guidance based on the outcome and documentation of Task 3.
2. Solicit NRC users to review the draft guidance and address their comments.
3. Communicate the guidance to other Federal organizations and to the general public through conferences and public review. Incorporate feedback as needed.
4. Produce the final guidance as a NUREG document within 18 months after the completion of Task 3.

Estimated performance period: FY14-15

Estimated resource needed: 4 staff months