

RIC 2005 Session F-1 ROP / Inspection Program

Top Three Challenges / Solutions for CY2005

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Challenge #1 - Communication of Plant Performance can be Further Improved

- SDP and FAQ processes continue to be burdensome, and often untimely
- External stakeholders wary of all “green” plants
- Annual assessment meetings can be better communication opportunities

Solution #1 - Communication of Plant Performance can be Further Improved

- Regions can increase their communication to the Program Office on stakeholder issues
 - (e.g., Inspection Procedure changes and feedback, Performance Indicator threshold questions, etc.)
- Annual Assessment meetings can be better used to regularly discuss current issues of concern to local officials and citizens

Challenge #2 – Regional Completion of all Program Requirements

- In particular, for Regions with significant supplemental or special inspection needs
- The need to share resources among regions is increased
- Early scheduling of inspections and minimizing changes is important

Solution #2 - Regional Completion of all Program Requirements

- Enhanced Inter-regional cooperation is occurring to ensure both inspection needs are shared, and program requirements are met.
- Regions must carefully evaluate added inspection requirements that may lessen inspection preparation or samples in the field. Regions will work closely with the Program Office to ensure new requirements don't undercut the baseline, and with licensees to maintain inspection schedule.

Challenge # 3 – Effectively Evaluate Cross Cutting Issues

- Cross-cutting issues are good leading indicators
- PI&R is key to ROP success; team inspection is only a snapshot of program
- If NRC identifies issues, extent of condition question is important

Solution #3 - Effectively Evaluate Cross Cutting Issues

- Regions will continue judicious use of PI&R “samples”, allowing licensee’s programs to address the issue - and then following up on corrective actions.
- Regions will continue work with Program Office on “fine tuning” guidance for cross cutting issue identification and closure.