Charter Tasks

– Identify opportunities to increase effectiveness and efficiency of engineering inspections
  • Document bases for performing independent engineering inspections
  • Assess current program for gaps and overlap
  • Determine if there are more efficient and effective ways to accomplish
  • Make recommendations

– Collaboration with Stakeholders

– Recommendations to EDO / Commission
Principal Considerations

– Ensure that NRC independent oversight is appropriate (transformational approach, what to inspect, how often, depth, agility of samples)

– Emphasize inspection focus on current performance and introduction of latent issues
Engineering Inspection Review

What the team has completed so far

• Why the NRC conducts independent engineering inspections

• What activities licensees perform that could result in the introduction of latent conditions

• What inspections we currently perform
Engineering Inspection Review

What the team has completed so far

• What inspections could be performed to improve the effectiveness of our oversight

• What immediate efficiencies can be implemented to achieve NRC independent oversight objectives
Working Group Observations (Current Inspection Program)

- Why? – Latent conditions…
- Many engineering activities that could introduce latent conditions
- Independent NRC oversight of a wide range of engineering activities
Working Group Observations (Current Inspection Program)

- Some current inspection procedures need not be standalone (goals can be achieved through sample selection)

- Current sample selection can contribute to perceptions of re-inspection (there exists opportunity for improved agility)

- Existing program does not give credit to licensee’s who conduct thorough self-assessments
Engineering Inspection Review

Current Working Group Alignment

- Heat sink engineering inspection (focused sample)
- In-service inspection (focus improvements)
- Boric acid inspection (sample)
- Improve engineering inspection agility
- 10 CFR 50.59 inspection (incorporate)
- Improve fire protection inspection agility
Important Decision Points

- Inspection Cycle (i.e., Quadrennial vs. Triennial)
- Fire Protection Inspection
- Comprehensive Engineering Inspection
- Credit for Industry Self-Assessment
- Other possibilities (indicators, etc.)
Key Considerations for Self Assessments

Safety: Shall maintain Principles of Good Regulation for implementation of self assessments
- Independence
  • Team composition?
  • NRC oversight?
- Openness
  • Written report availability?
- Effectiveness
  • Quality control?
  • Action Matrix?
- Clarity and Reliability
  • Industry standard?
  • NRC Policy?
Near Term Steps

- Stakeholder input on option proposals was due on September 29, 2017. Do we need an extension?

- What is the path forward on self-assessment?
Longer term steps

- Working group collates both NRC and external stakeholder input, develops pros and cons discussion points, develops public meeting slides for public meeting in late-November 2017

- Public Meeting late-November to present stakeholder views, pros and cons, and seek feedback
Finalizing the project

- Working group documents feedback from late-November public meeting, develops public meeting slides on options to be presented to the Commission for public meeting in early-January 2018

- Commission paper developed by March 1, 2018