

Industry Suggestions for More Efficient NRC Inspections at Fuel Cycle Facilities

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On behalf of NEI's Fuel Operations Committee

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Issue Background

- 2015 FCIX Licensing/Inspection Session
- Public Interactions, in part, in Context of Revised Fuel Cycle Oversight Program
- 2016 Commission Decision on RFCOP
- Mutual Interest in Program Efficiency Gains
 - e.g., Adjust Core Inspection Program Scope and Periodicity Based on Licensee Performance

Industry Observations and Opportunities for Enhanced Efficiency

- Appreciate Early Input on Annual Schedule
- Bundling of Inspection Modules is Efficient and Effective, e.g., Ops/NCS/Maintenance; More?
- Electronic Document Reading Rooms are Efficient for Sites Authorized to Use Them
 - Need Standardized Document Requests by Module
 - Multiple Requests for Same Document Still Occurs
 - Continued Requests for Large Numbers of Documents, e.g., QA Surveillances and Operator Training Records
 - NRC Use of Reading Room Varies by Site and Team

Inspection Efficiency Opportunities (continued)

- Reduce Inspection Frequency of Some Modules
 - Operational Safety Should be Reduced to Annual
 - Low Number of Cited Violations in Fire Protection Justifies Reducing Frequency from Annual to Triennial
 - Conduct Emergency Preparedness Module During Biennial Observed Exercise Week
- Use of Team Leads, Team Composition/Size and Trainees Generally Working Well
 - Team Lead Aids in Communication; Daily De-Briefs
 - Team Composition/Size Varies Between Sites for Same Inspection Module; Team Size Affects NRC Billing
 - Recognition that Trainees Make Findings

Programmatic Efficiency Opportunities

- Evaluate Whether Resident Inspectors (RIs) are Needed
 - If so, RIs should perform routine inspections and report out in lieu of Regional inspectors
- Inform Inspection Program with ISA Insights
- Share NRC Observations with Fleet at Pre-determined Periodicity
- Modify Licensee Performance Review Meeting Format, e.g., Use of Webinars, Open House

*Thank You
Questions?*

NRC Suggestions for Industry?



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