



Idaho National Laboratory

Idaho National Laboratory Program Review Lessons Learned

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April 2007

Weakness # 1

- Reviewed BEA assessments differed widely in quality. While some clearly provided a review of performance, others merely re-stated procedural requirements and provided no evidence that implementation was assessed
- Self-reported in NTS on 10/11/2005
- 16 C/A's, 14 completed over 18 month period prior to the program review
- Problem: C/A's not implemented by site organizations
- Action: Additional corrective actions are currently under development

Weakness # 2

- **Review of the BEA FY 06 Independent Assessment Schedule identified that all planned assessment activities for the areas of Nuclear Safety and Quality Assurance were limited to smaller-scope surveillances**
- **Issue: larger programmatic assessments of criticality safety, TSR implementation, and more were actually conducted**
- **Action: Additional C/A's under development**

Weakness # 3

- **The Radiological Control Organization's program for trending of radiological issues lacks the level of sophistication commonly seen at other Department of Energy sites. Radiological issues are not categorized by significance, and corrective actions had not been identified for the functional areas identified as the major contributors to the total number of events**
- **Problem: RC Director was not prepared, stumbled over answers, and was not crisp in his question responses**

Keys to Strengths

- **Well documented PAAA and support programs**
- **Conservative Reporting (approx. 90% self-identified)**
- **NTS reporting criteria strictly followed**
- **Trending effective in identifying problems**
- **Line management responsible for follow-up actions**
- **Senior management involvement (no committees)**
- **Close working relationship with DOE counterpart**
- **Regular implementation assessments identifying problems**

Lessons Learned

- **Making a PAAA NTS report will not keep DOE OE from identifying the issue as a weakness (Basically, no credit for self-identification in program review)**
- **Line and Senior Management must buy-in and take responsibility for implementing programmatic corrective actions within their organizations**
- **Be conservative in reporting programmatic PAAA noncompliances (Hardest area to convince management to make an NTS report)**

Lessons Learned (con't)

- **Set regulatory reporting goals**
 - **> 70% self-identified (not reported in ORPS)**
 - **All reports made within 20 days or sooner**
 - **All corrective actions completed by target completion date**
 - **Minimize the number of target completion date extensions**
- **Ensure assessment program includes larger scope programmatic assessments**

Lessons Learned (con't)

- **Keep a copy of everything (documents) provided to DOE OE for future reference**
- **Review prior recent PAAA program reviews for current “hot topics” and/or areas of regulatory interest**
- **Brief probable managers to be interviewed on potential “hot topics”, areas of regulatory interest and/or potential question areas**
- **Sit in on as many interviews as possible or allowed by OE and take note of potential problem areas to discuss with senior management**