



PRA F&O Closeout Reviews

EPM provides efficient and cost effective full or partial support for PRA F&O closeout using NEIs proposed Independent Assessment process.

Background

Closeout of PRA Facts and Observations (F&Os) from PRA peer reviews is a highly desirable position for utilities making risk informed applications to the NRC.

After the host utility has resolved the Facts and Observations (F&Os) from a peer review, they may undertake a review process to confirm close out of those F&Os. A new process is being presented to the NRC by NEI to facilitate this closeout. There are three options for a utility to pursue.

1. Close out F&Os in another Peer Review (expensive, resource intensive and time consuming)
2. Close out F&Os by NRC Review (slow and subject to rounds of RAIs and NRC interpretation and perspective)
3. Close Out F&Os by Independent Assessment

A utility may choose to close out F&Os by independent assessment. An independent assessment is conducted in a manner similar to a peer review as outlined in draft guidance of NEI 05-04/07-12/12-06 Appendix X, but with a scope limited to evaluating the closure of F&Os identified by the host utility, and without intention of issuance of new F&Os.

Independent Assessment vs. Peer Review – similar to peer review with important differences focused on close out:

- Scope limited to evaluating closure of F&Os identified by host utility
- No new F&Os, but if new issues are identified they are shared with host utility
- Concurrent focused scope peer review can be accommodated if necessary

EPM's independent peer assessment:

- Independent and qualified leads and supporting reviewers
- Follows draft guidance to Appendix X of NEI 05-04/07-12/12-06
- Provides entire teams, team leaders or review team members as situations warrant
- Evaluates for meeting capability category 2 requirements
- Report with:
 - Description of F&O independent assessment process
 - Description of scope and F&Os being reviewed with basis for closure
 - Identification of SRs impacted relating to F&Os including SRs that reference other SRs
 - List of team decisions for each finding with adequacy determination information
 - For each F&O, an assessment of whether resolution involved an upgrade and basis
 - Identification of remote reviewers (if used)

Why EPM?

- Flexible, timely, responsive and cost effective solutions tailored to client's scheduling and budgetary needs
- Extensive utility and regulatory experience
- Pilot program and focused independent assessment experience

Contact us today to support your 10 CFR 50.69, and Technical Specification Initiative 4b and 5b needs.

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