At the 2022 Configuration Management Benchmarking Group annual conference there was a presentation and breakout session on Owner’s Acceptance Review Best Practices. The presentation covered the utility perspective from Southern Nuclear by Andrew Neal and an EOC perspective from Sargent & Lundy by Kevin Kuhn. The breakout session was facilitated by Andrew Neal and Kevin Kuhn and focused on benchmarking the owner's acceptance process for those utilities that attended this session.

The following reflects a summation of what was shared among the utilities:

* Some have additional guidance beyond what is provided in the IP-ENG-001
* Some have procedural requirements for qualification to perform an OAR
* Consensus was reached that clarification from the DOWG on OAR of output documents is needed. How far does the OAR deep dive into the EC?
* Consider adding an OAR Comment Form

**Problem statement**

The IP-ENG-001 instruction for performing Owner Acceptance Review is not consistently being applied across the industry. This was identified during a breakout session at the 2022 CMBG conference. Discussions identified that it is not clear for some utilities if the review is of the ECP proper or should include the review of output documents such as the associated calculations and drawing changes. Additionally, the IP-ENG-001 procedure does not provide instruction on how to record and document the review. Some utilities have developed alternate instructions to support the OARs at their sites. Since this step is a black box the instructions should be contained in IP-ENG-001 explicitly.

Some recommendations to the DOWG

* Create an industry standard form for recording and documenting the OAR which includes the comment by the utility and response from the reviewer, contact information, etc; (or use the impact review comment form)
* Develop responsibilities section to include what the responsibility of the OAR individual is.
* Develop guidance to consider the level of OAR performed. Is there any criteria the utility can use to determine the level of review performed (i.e. graded approach).
* Recognize in the procedure that an OAR is not a verification of the design. If third party review is required that should be determined by the risk process.