



OFFICE OF THE
INSPECTOR GENERAL

UNITED STATES
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20555-0001

December 2, 2015

MEMORANDUM TO: Victor M. McCree
Executive Director for Operations

FROM: Stephen D. Dingbaum */RA/*
Assistant Inspector General for Audits

SUBJECT: STATUS OF RECOMMENDATIONS: AUDIT OF NRC'S
OVERSIGHT OF SPENT FUEL POOLS (OIG-15-A-06)

REFERENCE: DIRECTOR, OFFICE OF NUCLEAR REACTOR
REGULATION, MEMORANDUM DATED OCTOBER 30,
2015

Attached is the Office of the Inspector General's (OIG) analysis and status of recommendations 1, 2, 3, and 4 as discussed in the agency's response dated October 30, 2015. Based on this response, recommendations 1, 2, 3, and 4 are resolved. Please provide an updated status of the resolved recommendations by March 30, 2016. If you have questions or concerns, please call me at 415-5915, or Sherri Miotla, Team Leader, at 415-5914.

Attachment: As stated

cc: W. Dean, NRR
F. Brown, OEDO
B. Pham, OEDO
J. Arildsen, OEDO
J. Jolicoeur, OEDO
M. Johnson, OEDO
EDO_ACS Distribution Resource

Audit Report

AUDIT OF NRC'S OVERSIGHT OF SPENT FUEL POOLS

OIG-15-A-06

Status of Recommendations

Recommendation 1: Provide a generic regulatory solution for spent fuel pool criticality analysis by developing and issuing detailed licensee guidance along with the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) internal procedures.

Agency Response Dated
October 30, 2015:

The staff is currently reviewing Revision 1 of the Nuclear Energy Institute's report, NEI 12-16, "Guidance for Performing Criticality Analyses of Fuel Storage at Light Water Reactor Power Plants," (Agencywide Documents Access and Management System (ADAMS) Accession No. ML14112A516), which will form the basis of the regulatory guide. The NRC staff has submitted requests for additional information to the Nuclear Energy Institute and will continue the review once it receives responses.

CONTACT: Amrit Patel, NRR/DSS
(301) 415-5893

OIG Analysis: The actions proposed by the agency meet the intent of the recommendation. This recommendation will be closed upon NRR's issuance of the regulatory guide and revisions to NUREG-0800.

Status: Resolved.

Audit Report

AUDIT OF NRC'S OVERSIGHT OF SPENT FUEL POOLS

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Status of Recommendations

Recommendation 2: Develop and implement spent fuel pool inspection guidance at operating reactors.

Agency Response Dated
October 30, 2015:

On September 4, 2015, the staff issued for regional comment draft Inspection Procedure (IP) 60715, "Spent Fuel Safety at Operating Reactors," (ADAMS Accession No. ML15247A049). This inspection procedure will enhance spent fuel pool oversight by supplementing, when necessary, current inspection guidance in IP-71111.20, "Refueling and Other Outage Activities." The regional comments have been received and incorporated. Staff anticipates issuing the inspection procedure in its final form by the end of October 2015.

CONTACT: Juan Peralta, NRR/DIRS
(301) 415-2858

OIG Analysis: The actions proposed by the agency meet the intent of the recommendation. This recommendation will be closed upon NRR's issuance of updated inspection procedures addressing spent fuel pools.

Status: Resolved.

Audit Report

AUDIT OF NRC'S OVERSIGHT OF SPENT FUEL POOLS

OIG-15-A-06

Status of Recommendations

Recommendation 3: Develop an enforceable neutron-absorbing material aging management program.

Agency Response Dated
October 30, 2015:

The staff has completed most of the internal NRC review and approval processes for the generic letter requesting information on monitoring of neutron-absorbing materials in spent fuel pools. The staff is currently following the Office of Management and Budget's (OMB's) routine process for new information collections in order to obtain an OMB clearance number. The staff intends to issue the generic letter soon after the agency receives an OMB clearance number.

CONTACT: Scott Krepel, NRR/DSS
(301) 302-0399

OIG Analysis: The actions proposed by the agency meet the intent of the recommendation. This recommendation will be closed when NRR completes its analysis of the generic letter responses and develops an enforceable neutron-absorbing material aging management program based on the analysis.

Status: Resolved.

Audit Report

AUDIT OF NRC'S OVERSIGHT OF SPENT FUEL POOLS

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Status of Recommendations

Recommendation 4: Update Inspection Manual Chapter 2561 and Inspection Procedure 60801.

Agency Response Dated
October 30, 2015:

The staff has completed approximately 80 percent of the review and update of the approximately 40 inspection procedures associated with IMC 2561. The revision of IP 60801 is being coordinated with the Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation, Division of Inspection and Regional Support to ensure that the new revision is aligned with the new IP being generated as part of the action for Recommendation 2. The Office of Nuclear Material Safety and Safeguards plans to issue the core IPs by the end of December 2015, with issuance of the revised IMC 2561 to follow in March 2016.

CONTACT: Bruce Watson, CHP, NMSS/DUWP
(301) 415-6221

OIG Analysis: The actions proposed by the agency meet the intent of the recommendation. This recommendation will be closed when NMSS issues the revised versions of IMC 2561 and IP 60801.

Status: Resolved.