



OFFICE OF THE  
INSPECTOR GENERAL

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

August 10, 2017

MEMORANDUM TO: Victor M. McCree  
Executive Director for Operations

FROM: Dr. Brett M. Baker */RA/*  
Assistant Inspector General for Audits

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

REFERENCE: ACTING DIRECTOR, OFFICE OF NUCLEAR REACTOR  
REGULATION (NRR), MEMORANDUM DATED  
JULY 26, 2017

Attached is the Office of the Inspector General's (OIG) analysis and status of recommendations 1 and 3 as discussed in the agency's response dated July 26, 2017. Based on this response, recommendations 1 and 3 remain resolved. Recommendations 2 and 4 were previously closed. Please provide an updated status of the resolved recommendations by February 28, 2018. If you have questions or concerns, please call me at (301) 415-5915, or Sherri Miotla, Team Leader, at (301) 415-5914.

Attachment: As stated

cc: R. Lewis, OEDO  
H. Rasouli, OEDO  
J. Jolicoeur, OEDO  
J. Bowen, 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 NRC internal procedures.

Agency Response Dated  
July 26, 2017:

The staff held public meetings in October 2016 to resolve several outstanding technical issues associated with draft Revision 2 of the NEI's report, NEI 12-16, "Guidance for Performing Criticality Analyses of Fuel Storage at Light Water Reactor Power Plants." NEI has informed the staff that they expect to finalize NEI 12-16, Revision 2 by summer of 2017. Given industry's schedule, staff is planning to issue the draft RG for public comment in 2018 and publish the final RG in early 2019.

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

OIG-15-A-06

#### Status of Recommendations

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

Agency Response Dated  
July 26, 2017:

On April 7, 2016, the agency issued the generic letter (GL) requesting information on monitoring of neutron-absorbing materials in spent fuel pools. All licensees have submitted responses to the generic letter. The NRC staff has completed their preliminary evaluation of licensee responses, closed out the GL for 28 sites (51 units), and plans to issue follow-up requests for additional information. The staff expects to evaluate all responses, close out the GL for all licensees, and initiate any subsequent, appropriate regulatory actions by May 2018.

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 develops an enforceable neutron-absorbing material aging management program based on its evaluation of the GL responses from licensees.

**Status:** Resolved.