April 13, 2007

MEMORANDUM TO: Stephen D. Dingbaum
Assistant Inspector General for Audits
Office of the Inspector General

FROM: Martin J. Virgilio ***/RA/***
Deputy Executive Director for Materials, Waste, Research, State, Tribal, and Compliance Programs
Office of the Executive Director for Operations

SUBJECT: MEMORANDUM REPORT: AUDIT OF THE NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION'S NUCLEAR MATERIAL EVENTS DATABASE (OIG-07-A-11)

We have reviewed the audit report for the Nuclear Material Events Database (OIG-07-A-11) provided in your memorandum of March 23, 2007. As discussed during the exit conference, we agree with the recommendations and provide the following management decisions:

Recommendation 1

The Office of the Inspector General (OIG) recommends that the staff develop and implement written procedures for the operation of the Fuel Cycle Nuclear Material Events Database (FCNMED) to ensure that a mechanism is available for appropriate staff to share and access data on Category I fuel cycle facilities.

Response

Agree. As part of the larger effort to address new roles and responsibilities resulting from the 2006 reorganization of the Office of Nuclear Material Safety and Safeguards (NMSS), the staff will develop and implement written procedures for accessing and using data in the FCNMED system. Implementation will include training on new procedures, access controls, and periodic reports on the data recorded. Actions will be completed by October 31, 2007.

Recommendation 2

OIG recommends that the staff appoint an official coordinator, responsible for day-to-day oversight of FCNMED.

Response

Agree. As part of the reorganization noted above, NMSS will appoint an official event coordinator to work with the Regional Coordinator and the FCNMED Project Manager, now located in the Office of Federal and State Materials and Environmental Management Programs. The responsibilities of the coordinator will include collaboration with the FCNMED Project Manager on day-to-day oversight of FCNMED. Actions will be completed by October 31, 2007.

Recommendation 3

OIG recommends that the staff conduct a quality assurance review of the FCNMED data to ensure that all pertinent data is included in the database.

Response

Agree. NMSS will conduct a quality assurance review of the FCNMED data. The FCNMED procedures will address periodic reviews in the future. Actions will be completed by October 31, 2007.

cc: Chairman Klein
Commissioner McGaffigan
Commissioner Merrifield
Commissioner Jaczko
Commissioner Lyons
SECY
OGC

Recommendation 3

OIG recommends that the staff conduct a quality assurance review of the FCNMED data to ensure that all pertinent data is included in the database.

Response

Agree. NMSS will conduct a quality assurance review of the FCNMED data. The FCNMED procedures will address periodic reviews in the future. Actions will be completed by October 31, 2007.

cc: Chairman Klein
Commissioner McGaffigan
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