

April 19, 2007

MEMORANDUM TO: Luis A. Reyes  
Executive Director for Operations

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

SUBJECT: STATUS OF RECOMMENDATIONS: AUDIT OF  
NRC'S GENERIC COMMUNICATION PROGRAM  
(OIG-05-A-19)

REFERENCE: DIRECTOR, OFFICE OF NUCLEAR REACTOR  
REGULATION, MEMORANDUM DATED  
JANUARY 23, 2007

Attached is the Office of the Inspector General's (OIG) analysis and status of report recommendations as discussed in the agency's response dated January 23, 2007. Based on the agency's response, recommendations 1, 3, and 4 remain in a resolved status. OIG will close these recommendations once the agency provides information confirming that corrective actions have been completed. Please provide an updated status of recommendations 1, 3, and 4 by July 31, 2007.

If you have questions or concerns, please call me at 415-5915.

Attachment: As stated

cc: M. Johnson, OEDO  
M. Malloy, OEDO  
P. Tressler, OEDO

## Audit Report

### Audit of NRC's Generic Communications Program OIG-05-A-19

#### Status of Recommendations

Recommendation 1: Include safeguards advisories, as well as any other agency communication tool that meets the definition of a generic communication, in the formal Generic Communications Program to ensure compliance with regulatory requirements.

Agency Response dated  
January 23, 2007:

The staff issued draft Management Directive (MD) 8.18, "NRC Generic Communications Program" for interoffice concurrence on January 5, 2007. This MD establishes security advisories and Information Assessment Team Advisories as additional agency generic communications products. This MD defines the scope of U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) generic communications and defines organizational roles and responsibilities for each generic communications product. MD 8.18 explicitly defines NRC's generic communications only as the generic communications products established therein. The staff has submitted a copy of this draft to the Office of the Inspector General (OIG) as required by procedure.

The staff expects to submit draft MD 8.18 to the Commission by the end of June 2007.

OIG Analysis: The identification of new generic communications products in draft Management Directive 8.18, "Generic Communications," reflects progress in meeting the intent of this recommendation. This recommendation will be closed when revised Management Directive 8.18 is finalized.

**Status:** Resolved.

## Audit Report

### Audit of NRC's Generic Communications Program OIG-05-A-19

#### Status of Recommendations

Recommendation 3: Implement controls to ensure a systematic, consistent tracking methodology from initiation to closure for each agency-issued generic communication.

Agency Response dated  
January 23, 2007:

As noted in our response to this recommendation in June 2006, the staff established an interoffice (NMSS, NSIR, and NRR) working group to (a) evaluate the current process for initiating, developing, tracking, and distributing generic communications, and (b) recommend how this process should be amended.

The working group completed its evaluation of existing agency tools for developing an agency-wide tracking system for generic communications and concluded that no such tool exists. The Office of Information Systems (OIS) consulted, supported, and offered related assistance on developing a new information technology application for the agency-wide tracking of generic communications. The working group staff and OIS co-produced the scoping documents. On October 19, 2006, the working group submitted the application development request to OIS. OIS will continue to evaluate this application to determine the appropriate approach for this project.

The staff expects a decision on this by the end of April 2007.

OIG Analysis:

The agency's submittal of an application development request demonstrates significant progress by the staff towards developing an agency-wide tracking system which meets the intent of this recommendation. This recommendation will be closed when OIG receives documentation that the agency's proposed actions are complete.

**Status:**

Resolved.

## Audit Report

### Audit of NRC's Generic Communications Program OIG-05-A-19

#### Status of Recommendations

<u>Recommendation 4:</u>	Direct the development of a methodology that will allow the staff to gauge the effectiveness of agency-issued generic communications.
Agency Response dated January 23, 2007:	<p>The staff issued draft MD 8.18, "NRC Generic Communications Program" for interoffice concurrence on January 5, 2007. This MD establishes the roles and responsibilities for the conduct of effectiveness reviews and clearly identifies those generic communications that require effectiveness reviews. The staff submitted a copy of this draft to the OIG as required by procedure.</p> <p>The staff expects to submit draft MD 8.18 to the Commission by the end of June 2007.</p>
OIG Analysis:	The action identified in the agency's response meets the intent of this recommendation. OIG will close recommendation 4 when draft MD 8.18 is finalized.
<b>Status:</b>	Resolved.