# OFFICE OF THE INSPECTOR GENERAL

# UNITED STATES NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20555-0001

April 12, 2012

MEMORANDUM TO: R. William Borchardt

**Executive Director for Operations** 

FROM: Stephen D. Dingbaum /RA/

Assistant Inspector General for Audits

SUBJECT: STATUS OF RECOMMENDATIONS: AUDIT OF NRC'S

SAPHIRE 8 SYSTEM (OIG-11-A-18)

REFERENCE: DIRECTOR, OFFICE OF NUCLEAR REGULATORY

RESEARCH, MEMORANDUM DATED APRIL 4, 2012

Attached is the Office of the Inspector General's (OIG) analysis and status of recommendations 2 and 3 as discussed in the agency's response dated April 4, 2012. Based on this response, recommendations 2 and 3 are closed. Recommendation 1 was closed previously. All recommendations related to this report are now closed.

If you have any questions or concerns, please call me at 415-5915 or Beth Serepca, Team Leader, at 415-5911.

Attachment: As stated

cc: N. Mamish, OEDO

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#### **Audit Report**

#### **AUDIT OF NRC'S SAPHIRE 8 SYSTEM**

#### OIG-11-A-18

#### Status of Recommendations

Recommendation 2:

Develop and implement SAPHIRE Web site procedures to:

- Check and verify continued need for user access.
- Deactivate unnecessary user accounts.

Agency Response Dated March 4, 2012:

This recommendation has been addressed through a contracting action with the Idaho National Laboratory (INL), the contractor that maintains the SAPHIRE Web site. The contractor has developed a SAPHIRE Web site security plan, which proposes several improvements to the access controls for the Web site. The NRC project manager for SAPHIRE reviewed and approved the plan for implementation. INL completed implementation of the plan and submitted a report that describes the improved procedure for administering user accounts and the improved user access controls. The plan and the report summarizing the improvements are not publicly available, but both documents are available for internal NRC review at ADAMS Accession Nos. ML11355A119 and ML12080A034, respectively.

OIG Analysis:

OIG reviewed the ADAMS documents and determined that the recommended SAPHIRE Web site procedures were developed and implemented. This recommendation is therefore considered closed.

Status:

Closed.

#### **Audit Report**

#### **AUDIT OF NRC'S SAPHIRE 8 SYSTEM**

#### OIG-11-A-18

#### Status of Recommendations

Recommendation 3:

Develop and implement an automated system to deactivate SAPHIRE Web site user accounts that have not been used in a defined time period (e.g., 6 months).

Agency Response Dated April 4, 2012:

As discussed in the status update to Recommendation 2, INL has implemented a process to ensure that group account expiration dates are only extended after individual members have been verified for continued access. Individual users will be examined annually to determine if access is still required. The group representative will be responsible for determining if users should have continued access. INL will deactivate individual users as directed and then extend the group account expiration date. If the annual user review process is not completed and the NRC project manager (or applicable group administrator for other groups) does not give authorization to extend the expiration date, the group will be automatically disabled when the expiration date is reached.

In addition to the process described above, the SAPHIRE Web site now requires the use of a work-related e-mail address as a username, and it applies a maximum lifetime restriction to user passwords. These controls effectively act as an automated system to deactivate SAPHIRE Web site user accounts that have not been used in a defined time period. If a user attempts to access the site with a password older than the maximum lifetime, the user will be required to update the password before gaining access. The new password is communicated to the user by e-mail. If the user no longer has access to the e-mail account (e.g., the user is no longer employed by the organization), the user will be unable to receive a new password.

Target Completion Date: The staff considers the actions in response to this recommendation to be complete.

#### **Audit Report**

#### **AUDIT OF NRC'S SAPHIRE 8 SYSTEM**

#### OIG-11-A-18

#### **Status of Recommendations**

### Recommendation 3 (continued):

OIG Analysis: OIG reviewed the ADAMS documents, the SAPHIRE Web

site, and the implemented procedures and determined that

accounts no longer needing SAPHIRE access will be

deactivated after a defined time period. This recommendation is therefore considered closed.

Status: Closed.

**Document Location:** G:\AUDIT\11-A-18 SAPHIRE 8 System\Followup\oig response to agency response dated 040412.docx

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