

Reactor Oversight Process Resources

Table 1 (on the next page) summarizes the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) staff resources expended, in hours, for the Reactor Oversight Process during the past 3 calendar year (CY) inspection cycles. Overall staff effort in CY 2012 remained consistent with CY 2010 and CY 2011 resource expenditures.

Baseline inspection hours include direct inspection effort, baseline inspection preparation and documentation, and plant status activity. Baseline inspection hours decreased slightly in 2012 when compared with 2010 and 2011. The staff attributes the slight reduction in baseline resource expenditures to the extended shutdowns at Crystal River, San Onofre, and Fort Calhoun nuclear power plants. Extended shutdowns effectively reduce the number of appropriate baseline inspection sample opportunities that the staff can complete under certain baseline inspection areas.

Plant-specific inspections include supplemental inspections conducted in response to greater-than-green inspection findings and performance indicators; reactive inspections, such as augmented team inspections and special inspections performed in response to events; and the infrequently performed inspections listed in Appendix C, "Special and Infrequently Performed Inspections," to NRC Inspection Manual Chapter (IMC) 2515, "Light-Water Reactor Inspection Program—Operations Phase," dated April 26, 2012, and Appendix C, "Generic, Special, and Infrequent Inspections," to IMC 2201, "Security Inspection Program for Commercial Nuclear Power Reactors," dated September 8, 2009, which are not part of the baseline or supplemental inspection programs. Plant-specific inspection effort increased in 2012 when compared to 2010 and 2011. This can be attributed in part to the performance of three augmented team inspections, which were conducted at the Wolf Creek, San Onofre, and River Bend nuclear power plants. During 2010 and 2011, only one augmented team inspection was performed. In addition, substantial inspection activities were undertaken at Fort Calhoun in accordance with IMC 0350, "Oversight of Reactor Facilities in a Shutdown Condition Due to Significant Performance and/or Operational Concerns." Further, Palisades and Seabrook received additional inspections as a result of Action Matrix deviations. Considering these activities, the increase in plant-specific resources expenditures is expected given the scope of the required inspections compared to previous years.

Generic safety issue inspections are typically one-time inspections of specific safety and security issues, with significant variability in effort possible from year to year. Resource expenditures for generic safety issue inspections remain relatively high, primarily due to the seismic and flooding walk-down inspections being conducted in response to the events at the Fukushima Dai-ichi Nuclear Station in Japan.

Regional effort for licensee performance assessment continues to remain consistent with 2010 and 2011 resource expenditures.

The effort reported for other activities includes inspection-related travel, the significance determination process (SDP), and routine communication that encompasses regional support, enforcement support, and the review of technical documents. The effort in this area remained consistent with CY 2010 and CY 2011 resource expenditures.

Table 1 Resources Expended¹
(Inspection-Related Staff Effort Expended at Operating Power Reactors)

| | <u>CY 2010 hrs</u> | <u>CY 2011 hrs</u> | <u>CY 2012 hrs</u> |
|--|--------------------|--------------------|--------------------|
| Baseline Inspections | 314,947 | 316,297 | 311,376 |
| <i>Direct Inspection Effort</i> | 156,319 | 156,871 | 154,221 |
| <i>Inspection Prep/Doc</i> | 109,550 | 111,194 | 110,825 |
| <i>Plant Status</i> | 49,078 | 48,232 | 46,330 |
| Plant-Specific Inspections | 26,229 | 21,670 | 27,382 |
| <i>Direct Inspection Effort</i> | 16,552 | 11,700 | 13,974 |
| <i>Inspection Prep/Doc</i> | 9,677 | 9,970 | 13,408 |
| Generic Safety Issue Inspections | 6,506 | 11,868 | 9,665 |
| <i>Direct Inspection Effort</i> | 3,643 | 6,302 | 5,696 |
| <i>Inspection Prep/Doc</i> | 2,863 | 5,566 | 3,969 |
| Performance Assessment (Regional Effort Only) | 10,439 | 10,247 | 10,417 |
| Other Activities² | 75,902 | 78,918 | 77,465 |
| <hr/> Total Staff Effort | 434,023 | 439,000 | 436,377 |
| Total Staff Effort/Operating Site | 6,576 | 6,652 | 6,612 |

¹ Resources expended include regional, Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation, and Office of Nuclear Security and Incident Response hours.

² Other activities consist of inspection-related travel, the SDP, enforcement support, communications, regional support, and technical reviews