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News Releases - 2014

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December

Date	Document Number	Description
12/30/2014	IV-14-027	NRC Schedules Regulatory Conference to Discuss Apparent Violation at Diablo Canyon Nuclear Power Plant
12/23/2014	14-091	Stephen G. Burns Becomes Agency's 16th Chairman
12/18/2014	14-090	NRC Publishes Volume 4 of Yucca Mountain Safety Evaluation Report
12/18/2014	I-14-042	NRC Proposes $3,500 Fine Against Virginia Engineering Company
12/17/2014	14-089	NRC Announces Public Availability of LaSalle Nuclear Plant License Renewal Application
12/15/2014	IV-14-026	NRC Names New Senior Resident Inspector at Palo Verde Nuclear Generating Station
12/11/2014	14-088	NRC's Advisory Committee On Reactor Safeguards Elects 2015 Leadership And Confirms Meeting Schedule
12/10/2014	14-087	NRC Remains Among the Best Places to Work in the Federal Government, Partnership for Public Service Says
12/09/2014	IV-14-025	NRC Names New Resident Inspector at Grand Gulf Nuclear Plant
12/03/2014	14-086	NRC Meeting Dec. 17 to Cover Industry Proposals to Reduce Emergency Planning Zones for Small Modular Reactors
12/02/2014	14-085	NRC Issues Final Environmental Impact Statement for Grand Gulf Nuclear Power Plant License Renewal
12/01/2014	14-084	NRC Seeks Comment on Draft Policy Statement, Tribal Manual

November

Date	Document Number	Description
11/28/2014	III-14-041	NRC Seeks Comment On Proposed License Termination At Jefferson Proving Ground
11/24/2014	III-14-040	NRC Proposes $3,500 Fine For an Indianapolis Engineering Consulting Company
11/20/2014	II-14-055	NRC Increases Oversight and Inspection of St. Lucie Nuclear Plant
11/19/2014	14-083	NRC Meets Performance Goals; Issues FY14 Performance and Accountability Report
11/19/2014	14-082	NRC Completes Safety Review of Proposed New Reactor At Fermi Site In Michigan
11/18/2014	14-081	NRC's Macfarlane Urges Industry to Focus on Safety and Public Outreach
11/17/2014	14-080	NRC Issues Final Environmental Impact Statement for Callaway Nuclear Power Plant License Renewal
11/14/2014	14-079	NRC Extends Construction Deadline for MOX Fuel Fabrication Plant
11/10/2014	III-14-039	NRC Proposes $7,000 Fine To A Michigan Cardiology Company
11/06/2014	14-078	NRC Renews License for Crow Butte Uranium Recovery Facility
11/05/2014	14-077	Stephen Burns Sworn in as NRC Commissioner

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11/04/2014	14-076	NRC Chairman Macfarlane to speak at National Press Club

October

Date	Document Number	Description
10/30/2014	III-14-038	NRC Issues Confirmatory Order to Kruger Technologies
10/28/2014	14-075	NRC Agrees to Changes in Kewaunee Nuclear Plant's Emergency Programs
10/28/2014	II-14-054	NRC Assigns New Resident Inspector to North Anna Nuclear Station
10/27/2014	I-14-041	NRC Issues 'White' Inspection Finding for Calvert Cliffs 2 Nuclear Plant; Level of Oversight to be Increased
10/27/2014	14-074	NRC Remains a top performer in Government Survey
10/23/2014	I-14-040	NRC Issues Security-related Insepection Finding for Limerick Nuclear Plant, Resulting in Increase in Agency's Oversight at Facility
10/23/2014	14-073	NRC Renews License for Dry Spent Fuel Storage Facility at Calvert Cliffs
10/21/2014	14-072	NRC Chairman Allison M. Macfarlane Announces Decision to Leave NRC
10/21/2014	III-14-037	NRC Begins Special Inspection at Duane Arnold Nuclear Plant
10/21/2014	I-14-039	NRCNRC Assigns New Resident Inspector to North Anna Nuclear Station Issues 'White' Inspection Finding for Millstone 3 Nuclear Plant; Level of Oversight to be Increased
10/20/2014	14-071	NRC Names New Director of Office of Congressional Affairs
10/20/2014	II-14-053	NRC Returns All Three Browns Ferry Nuclear Units to Normal Oversight and Inspection
10/20/2014	IV-14-024	NRC Schedules Regulatory Conference to Discuss Apparent Violations at Arkansas Nuclear
10/20/2014	14-070	NRC Renews Operating Licenses of Limerick Nuclear Plant for an Additional 20 Years
10/16/2014	14-069	NRC Staff Issues Volume 3 of Yucca Mountain Safety Evaluation Report
10/15/2014	14-068	Interagency Cybersecurity Forum Launched; NRC Chairman Allison Macfarlane Chairs Inaugural Meeting
10/15/2014	14-067	NRC Staff to Release Volume 3 of Yucca Mountain Safety Report
10/15/2014	I-14-038	New NRC Resident Inspector Assigned to Beaver Valley Nuclear Plant
10/14/2014	I-14-037	NRC, Army Corps to Seek Public Comments on Draft Environmental Report for PSEG Early Site Permit Application on Oct. 23 in Middletown, Del.
10/14/2014	14-066	Jeff Baran Sworn in as NRC Commissioner
10/14/2014	14-065	NRC Seeks Public Comment on Decommissioning Plan for San Onofre Nuclear Plant; Public Meeting Scheduled for October 27
10/08/2014	III-14-036	NRC Names New Resident Inspector at Byron Nuclear Station
10/06/2014	14-064	NRC Reorganizes Materials and Waste Programs
10/02/2014	III-14-035	NRC Proposes $3,500 Fine For a Missouri Cardiology Company

September

Date	Document Number	Description
09/29/2014	II-14-052	NRC Assigns New Resident Inspector to Watts Bar Nuclear Plant
09/26/2014	14-063	NRC, Chicago Bridge & Iron Agree On Actions To Enhance Welder Training Requirements
09/25/2014	I-14-036	NRC Assigns New Resident Inspector to Millstone Nuclear Plant
09/23/2014	IV-14-023	NRC to Meet with Officials to Discuss Wolf Creek Nuclear Plant
09/23/2014	II-14-050	NRC Schedules Enforcement Conference with Global Nuclear Fuel for Oct. 1
09/23/2014	II-14-051	NRC Schedules Oct. 1 Meetings to Discuss Watts Bar Nuclear Plant Unit 2 Construction
09/19/2014	IV-14-022	NRC to Hold Public Meeting to Discuss Status of Fort Calhoun Nuclear Station
09/19/2014	I-14-035	NRC, Army Corps To Seek Public Comments on Draft Environmental Report for PSEG Early Site Permit; Meetings Scheduled for Oct. 1
09/17/2014	14-062	NRC Issues Final Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement for Limerick License Renewal
09/16/2014	II-14-048	NRC Schedules Sept. 30 Public Outreach Meeting in Erwin
09/16/2014	II-14-049	NRC Assigns New Resident Inspector to Browns Ferry Nuclear Plant
09/16/2014	14-061	NRC Submits Inter-agency Task Force Report on Radiation Source Protection and Security

09/16/2014	14-060	NRC Certifies GE-Hitachi New Reactor Design
09/15/2014	I-14-034	NRC Launches Special Inspection at Millstone 3 Nuclear Power Plant In Response to Continuing Problems with Pump
09/09/2014	14-059	NRC Issues Strategic Plan
09/04/2014	14-058	NRC Issues Mid-Cycle Assessments for Nation's Nuclear Plants
09/02/2014	II-14-047	NRC Assigns New Resident Inspector to Catawba Nuclear Plant
09/02/2014	II-14-046	NRC Names New Senior Resident Inspector at Watts Bar Nuclear Plant
09/02/2014	IV-14-021	NRC Schedules Open House to Discuss Performance of Palo Verde Nuclear Generating Station

August

Date	Document Number	Description
08/28/2014	14-057	NRC Issues Final Safety Evaluation Report for Callaway Nuclear Power Plant License Renewal Application
08/27/2014	14-056	NRC Lifts Probation for Georgia's Agreement State Regulatory Program; Heightened Oversight to Continue
08/26/2014	14-055	NRC Approves Final Rule on Spent Fuel Storage and Ends Suspension of Final Licensing Actions for Nuclear Plants and Renewals
08/25/2014	I-14-033	NRC Plans Public Meeting for Sept. 3 on Results of Inspection Conducted at Susquehanna Nuclear Power Plant
08/25/2014	14-054	NRC Approves Power Uprate For Peach Bottom Atomic Power Station
08/22/2014	14-053	NRC Seeks Comment on Draft Environmental Impact Statement For PSEG Early Site Permit, Public Meetings Oct. 1
08/21/2014	14-052	NRC Names Daniel H. Dorman as Region I Administrator
08/20/2014	II-14-045	NRC Assigns New Resident Inspector to McGuire Nuclear Station
08/19/2014	14-051	NRC Awards FY14 Nuclear Education Grants
08/19/2014	II-14-044	NRC Schedules Public Meeting to Discuss Certificate Termination for Paducah Gaseous Diffusion Plant
08/18/2014	14-050	Atomic Safety and Licensing Board to Take Public Comment Sept. 28, Hold Hearing Sept. 30 on Ross Uranium Recovery Facility
08/15/2014	14-049	NRC Meeting Aug. 26 to Discuss Proposed Language For Consolidated Accident Mitigation Rule
08/13/2014	II-14-043	NRC Increases Oversight at Oconee Nuclear Plant
08/12/2014	III-14-034	International Safety Review Team Visits Clinton Nuclear Plant
08/12/2014	14-048	NRC Seeks Public Comment on Draft Environmental Study of Sequoyah Nuclear Plant License Renewal Application
08/11/2014	II-14-042	NRC Assigns New Resident Inspector to Hatch Nuclear Power Plant
08/11/2014	IV-14-020	NRC Schedules Public Meeting To Discuss Performance of Arkansas Nuclear One
08/06/2014	IV-14-019	NRC Schedules Open House to Discuss Performance of Waterford 3 Nuclear Power Plant
08/05/2014	II-14-041	NRC Assigns New Resident Inspector to Vogtle Nuclear Power Plant
08/01/2014	14-047	NRC Receives High Marks for Small Business Contracting

July

Date	Document Number	Description
07/31/2014	I-14-032	NRC Imposes Civil Penalty Against Rhode Island Firm
07/30/2014	14-046	Atomic Safety and Licensing Board to Take Public Comment Aug. 18, Hold Hearing Aug. 19 on Dewey-Burdock Uranium Recovery Facility
07/29/2014	14-045	NRC Public Meeting in Portland, Ore., August 7 to Discuss Potential Regulatory Changes for Research and Test Reactors
07/28/2014	14-044	NRC Names Maureen Wylie New Chief Financial Officer

07/28/2014	III-14-033	NRC Schedules Open House August 7 to Discuss Performance of Davis-Besse Nuclear Power Station
07/28/2014	III-14-032	NRC Schedules Public Meeting Aug. 7 to Discuss Performance of Clinton Nuclear Power Station
07/25/2014	14-043	NRC Seeks Public Comment on Potential Changes to Radiation Protection Regulations
07/24/2014	I-14-031	New NRC Senior Resident Inspector Assigned to Calvert Cliffs Nuclear Plant
07/24/2014	II-14-040	NRC Lifts Confirmatory Order at Honeywell Metropolis Works
07/22/2014	14-042	NRC Commissioner William D. Magwood IV Announces Departure Date
07/22/2014	III-14-031	NRC Issues Confirmatory Order to Entergy Regarding Palisades Nuclear Plant
07/22/2014	II-14-039	NRC Names New Resident Inspector for Vogtle Nuclear Plant Construction
07/22/2014	II-14-038	NRC Assigns New Resident Inspector to Farley Nuclear Power Plant
07/21/2014	14-041	NRC Seeks Public Comment on Proposed Revisions to Requirements for Medical Uses of Radioactive Materials
07/17/2014	IV-14-018	NRC Names New Senior Resident Inspector at River Bend Station
07/17/2014	II-14-037	NRC Schedules Conference with Duke Energy to Discuss Apparent Violation at Oconee Nuclear Station
07/16/2014	III-14-030	NRC Seeks Public Input on Fermi Nuclear Plant License Renewal Application
07/14/2014	IV-14-017	NRC Issues Order Prohibiting Individual From Participating in NRC-Licensed Activities For a Minimum of Three Years
07/14/2014	III-14-029	NRC Proposes $3,500 Civil Penalty to Indiana Hospital
07/11/2014	III-14-028	NRC Names New Senior Resident Inspector at Point Beach Nuclear Station
07/11/2014	III-14-027	NRC Schedules Open House July 17 to Discuss Performance of Prairie Island Nuclear Power Plant
07/10/2014	III-14-026	NRC Schedules Public Meeting July 17 to Discuss Performance of Braidwood Nuclear Power Station
07/10/2014	II-14-036	NRC Begins Special Inspection at Nuclear Fuel Services
07/08/2014	III-14-025	NRC Schedules Open House July 15 to Discuss Performance of Byron Nuclear Power Plant
07/03/2014	III-14-024	NRC Schedules Public Meeting July 8 to Discuss Performance of D.C. Cook Nuclear Power Plant
07/03/2014	14-040	NRC Publishes Annual Report to Congress on Nuclear Security Inspections
07/02/2014	IV-14-016	NRC Issues White Finding to Wolf Creek

June

Date	Document Number	Description
06/30/2014	14-039	NRC Names William (Bill) Dean Director of Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation
06/30/2014	14-038	NRC Amends Licensing, Inspection and Annual Fee Rule for FY 2014
06/30/2014	IV-14-015	NRC Names New Resident Inspector at Palo Verde Nuclear Generating Station
06/26/2014	14-037	NRC Renews Operating License for Dow Chemical Co. TRIGA Research Reactor in Michigan
06/26/2014	I-14-030	NRC Assigns New Resident Inspector To Nine Mile Point Nuclear Plant
06/26/2014	II-14-035	NRC Assigns New Senior Resident Inspector for Hatch Nuclear Power Plant
06/24/2014	I-14-029	NRC Assigns New Senior Resident Inspector To Pilgrim Nuclear Plant
06/24/2014	IV-14-014	NRC Issues Two Yellow Findings to Arkansas Nuclear One
06/23/2014	I-14-028	New NRC Senior Resident Inspector Assigned to Beaver Valley Nuclear Plant
06/23/2014	III-14-023	NRC Schedules Public Meeting June 26 to Discuss Performance of Palisades Nuclear Power Station
06/20/2014	IV-14-013	NRC Names New Senior Resident Inspector at Waterford 3 Nuclear Plant
06/18/2014	IV-14-012	NRC Names New Senior Resident Inspector at Fort Calhoun Station
06/18/2014	III-14-022	NRC Schedules Open House June 25 to Discuss Performance of Dresden Nuclear Power Station
06/18/2014	IV-14-011	NRC to Meet With Officials to Discuss Performance of Wolf Creek Nuclear Plant

06/18/2014	14-036	NRC Announces Opportunity to Request a Hearing on Fermi 2 Nuclear Plant License Renewal Application
06/16/2014	II-14-034	NRC Assigns New Resident Inspector for Summer Nuclear Power Plant Construction
06/16/2014	II-14-033	NRC Assigns New Resident Inspector to Surry Nuclear Power Plant
06/13/2014	I-14-027	NRC to Meet With Nextera On June 24 to Discuss Performance of Seabrook Nuclear Power Plant
06/11/2014	14-035	NRC Issues Annual Report on Abnormal Occurrences for FY2013
06/11/2014	III-14-021	NRC Schedules Open House June 17 to Discuss Performance of Quad Cities Nuclear Power Station
06/02/2014	I-14-026	NRC Special Inspection to Review Issues during Unplanned Outage On May 25th at Millstone Nuclear Power Plant

May

Date	Document Number	Description
05/28/2014	III-14-020	NRC Proposes $17,500 Civil Penalty to Zion Nuclear Power Plant
05/27/2014	I-14-025	NRC to Meet With Entergy on June 4 to Discuss Performance of Indian Point Nuclear Power Plant
05/27/2014	14-034	NRC to Hold Vendor Oversight Workshop in Portland, Ore, On June 12
05/22/2014	I-14-024	NRC Plans Open House for May 29 to Discuss Performance of Peach Bottom Nuclear Power Plant
05/19/2014	14-033	NRC, FERC Commissioners to Discuss Grid Reliability, Reactor Issues May 28 in Rockville, Md
05/19/2014	II-14-032	NRC Schedules Meeting to Discuss Annual Assessment of Robinson Nuclear Power Plant
05/16/2014	I-14-023	NRC to Meet With Entergy May 28 to Discuss Performance of Vermont Yankee Nuclear Power Plant
05/16/2014	III-14-019	NRC Schedules Open House May 22 to Discuss Performance of Fermi Nuclear Power Plant
05/15/2014	III-14-018	NRC Issues Order Prohibiting a Contractor for a Cardiology Practice From Participating in Licensed Activities for Three Years
05/14/2014	I-14-022	NRC to Meet with Exelon on May 22nd to Discuss Performance of Oyster Creek Nuclear Power Plant
05/14/2014	II-14-031	NRC Schedules Open House to Discuss Oconee Nuclear Plant Performance
05/14/2014	II-14-030	NRC Schedules Meeting to Discuss Annual Assessment of St. Lucie Nuclear Plant
05/13/2014	II-14-029	NRC Schedules May 21 Meeting to Discuss Safety Performance of Browns Ferry Nuclear Plant
05/13/2014	II-14-028	NRC Schedules Meeting to Discuss Annual Assessment of Turkey Point Nuclear Plant
05/12/2014	III-14-017	NRC Names New Resident Inspector at D.C. Cook Nuclear Station
05/09/2014	14-032	NRC Prioritizes Detailed Earthquake Risk Analysis For Central and Eastern U.S. Reactors
05/07/2014	14-031	NRC Announces Public Availability of Fermi 2 Nuclear Plant License Renewal Application
05/07/2014	III-14-016	NRC Schedules Open House May 14 to Discuss Performance of LaSalle Nuclear Power Plant
05/06/2014	14-030	NRC Seeks Comment on Supplement to Certification Rule for General Electric-Hitachi New Reactor Design
05/05/2014	III-14-015	NRC Names New Senior Resident Inspector at Quad Cities Nuclear Station
05/01/2014	II-14-027	NRC Cites Browns Ferry Nuclear Plant for Emergency Plan Staffing Issues; Confirms Actions to Address Violations
05/01/2014	II-14-026	NRC Schedules Conference with Duke Energy to Discuss Brunswick Plant Flooding Issue

April

Date	Document Number	Description
04/30/2014	IV-14-010	NRC to Hold Public Meeting to Discuss Status of Fort Calhoun Nuclear Station

04/29/2014	I-14-021	NRC Issues Order Prohibiting Former Indian Point Manager From Participating in Licensed Activities For One Year
04/29/2014	I-14-020	NRC Schedules Open House for May 7th to Discuss Performance of Limerick Nuclear Power Plant
04/29/2014	II-14-025	NRC Schedules Open House to Discuss McGuire Nuclear Plant Performance
04/29/2014	II-14-024	NRC Schedules Open House to Discuss Brunswick Nuclear Plant Performance
04/25/2014	14-029	NRC Issues License to Strata for Ross Uranium Recovery Facility in Wyoming
04/25/2014	IV-14-009	NRC to Discuss Performance Assessment For Diablo Canyon Nuclear Power Plant
04/25/2014	IV-14-008	NRC Issues Confirmatory Action Letter to Acuren USA; Will Conduct Additional Inspection
04/23/2014	I-14-019	NRC Schedules Open House For May 1 to Discuss Performance of Calvert Cliffs Nuclear Power Plant
04/23/2014	IV-14-007	NRC Schedules Regulatory Conference to Discuss Apparent Violation At Wolf Creek Nuclear Plant
04/23/2014	II-14-023	NRC Schedules Meeting in Holly Springs to Discuss Harris Nuclear Plant Performance
04/21/2014	I-14-018	NRC to Meet With Entergy on May 1st to Discuss Performance of Pilgrim Nuclear Power Plant
04/21/2014	II-14-022	NRC Schedules May 1 Meeting in Metropolis to Discuss Honeywell Uranium Facility
04/18/2014	14-028	NRC Seeks Public Comment on Proposed Procedures For New Reactor Pre-Operation Hearings; Meeting May 21
04/17/2014	I-14-017	NRC Issues 'White' Inspection Finding for Ginna Nuclear Plant; Level of Oversight to be Increased
04/15/2014	IV-14-006	NRC To Discuss 2013 Performance Assessment for Columbia Generating Station
04/14/2014	14-027	NRC Proposes to Amend the Licensing, Inspection and Annual Fees Rule
04/14/2014	II-14-021	NRC Schedules Open House in Rock Hill to Discuss Catawba Nuclear Plant Performance
04/14/2014	II-14-020	NRC Schedules Meetings to Discuss Vogtle Nuclear Plant Performance and Construction Inspection for New Units
04/14/2014	II-14-019	NRC Begins Special Inspection at Global Nuclear Fuel in Wilmington
04/09/2014	I-14-016	NRC Issues Order Imposing $7,000 Fine Against Puerto Rico Firm For Failing to Dispose of Licensed Nuclear Materials
04/09/2014	III-14-014	NRC Schedules Public Meeting April 15 to Discuss Performance of Duane Arnold Energy Center
04/08/2014	14-026	NRC Issues License to Powertech for Dewey Burdock
04/08/2014	II-14-018	NRC Schedules April 16 Meeting in Eunice to Discuss URENCO USA Fuel Facility
04/08/2014	I-14-015	NRC Schedules Open House for April 17th to Discuss Performance of Three Mile Island 1 Nuclear Power Plant
04/07/2014	I-14-014	New NRC Resident Inspector Assigned to Indian Point Nuclear Plant
04/07/2014	II-14-017	NRC Schedules Open House April 16 to Discuss Agency's Assessment of Hatch Nuclear Power Plant
04/03/2014	14-025	Online Registration Open for Fuel Cycle Information Exchange, June 10-11 in Rockville, Md.
04/03/2014	II-14-016	NRC Schedules Open House April 15 to Discuss Agency's Assessment of Farley Nuclear Power Plant
04/02/2014	III-14-013	NRC Monitoring ALERT at Quad Cities Nuclear Power Plant
04/02/2014	I-14-013	NRC to Meet With PPL on April 9th to Discuss Performance of Susquehanna Nuclear Power Plant
04/01/2014	14-024	NRC Approves Transfer of Five Nuclear Power Reactor Operating Licenses from Constellation to Exelon

March

Date	Document Number	Description

03/31/2014 II-14-015	NRC Schedules April 9 Meeting in Richland to Discuss AREVA Fuel Facility
03/31/2014 II-14-014	NRC Schedules April 9 Meetings to Discuss Watts Bar Nuclear Plant Unit 2 Construction
03/31/2014 IV-14-005	NRC Issues White Finding to Waterford 3 Nuclear Power Plant
03/28/2014 III-14-012	NRC Schedules Public Meeting April 8 to Discuss Performance of Point Beach Nuclear Power Plant
03/27/2014 14-023	NRC Again Honored Among Top Supporters of Historically Black Colleges and Universities
03/26/2014 14-022	NRC, DOE Officials to Meet April 7 to Discuss Yucca Mountain Groundwater Report
03/26/2014 I-14-012	NRC to Discuss Millstone Nuclear Plant Annual Assessment During March 31st Meeting With Nuclear Energy Advisory Council
03/25/2014 I-14-011	NRC Schedules Open House for April 3rd to Discuss Performance of Beaver Valley Nuclear Power Plant
03/25/2014 IV-14-004	NRC Schedules Regulatory Conference to Discuss Apparent Violations At Arkansas Nuclear One
03/25/2014 III-14-011	NRC Names New Resident Inspector at Duane Arnold Nuclear Station
03/25/2014 II-14-013	NRC Schedules Meeting April 3 to Discuss Agency's Assessment of Watts Bar Nuclear Power Plant
03/25/2014 14-021	NRC Chairman Macfarlane Presents U.S. National Report to IAEA's Convention on Nuclear Safety
03/24/2014 II-14-012	NRC Schedules Meeting April 2 to Discuss Agency's Assessment of Sequoyah Nuclear Power Plant
03/24/2014 II-14-011	NRC Begins Special Inspection at Catawba Nuclear Power Plant
03/24/2014 14-020	NRC Seeks Comment on Proposed Revision to Acceptance Criteria For Emergency Cooling Systems at U.S. Reactors
03/21/2014 I-14-010	NRC Proposes $11,200 Fine For Rhode Island Firm For Not Obtaining Approvals to Perform Work at Naval Facility and in Connecticut
03/21/2014 III-14-010	NRC Schedules Public Meeting March 31 to Discuss Performance of Monticello Nuclear Power Plant
03/21/2014 III-14-009	NRC Responded to an Alert at Fermi Nuclear Power Plant
03/20/2014 III-14-008	NRC Names New Senior Resident Inspector at Palisades Nuclear Station
03/18/2014 I-14-009	NRC Schedules Open House for March 27 to Discuss Performance of Salem, Hope Creek Nuclear Power Plants
03/18/2014 II-14-010	NRC Schedules Meetings to Discuss Agency's Assessment of Summer Nuclear Plant Unit 1 Operation and Units 2 and 3 Construction
03/13/2014 14-019	NRC Seeks Public Comment on Draft Environmental Report for Davis-Besse Nuclear Plant License Renewal – Meetings Scheduled for March 25
03/11/2014 II-14-009	NRC Issues Confirmatory Order to Summer Nuclear Power Plant; Prohibits Former Contract Employee from NRC-Licensed Activities for Five Years
03/11/2014 14-018	NRC Chairman Allison Macfarlane Selects Renee Simpson As Director of Office of Congressional Affairs
03/11/2014 14-017	Macfarlane Cites Post-Fukushima Safety Enhancement Progress
03/10/2014 I-14-008	NRC Schedules Open House for March 20 to Discuss Performance of Ginna Nuclear Power Plant
03/10/2014 I-14-007	NRC Sets Open House for March 18 to Discuss Performance Of Nine Mile Point, Fitzpatrick Nuclear Power Plants
03/07/2014 III-14-007	NRC Schedules Public Meeting March 18 to Discuss Performance of Perry Nuclear Power Plant
03/07/2014 II-14-008	NRC Schedules Open House On March 20 To Discuss Safety Performance For Dominion's North Anna Nuclear Plant
03/07/2014 II-14-007	NRC Schedules Open House for March 18 to Discuss Surry Nuclear Plant Safety Performance

03/06/2014	14-016	NRC Issues Annual Assessments for Nation's Nuclear Plants
03/06/2014	14-015	NRC Seeks Public Comment on Draft Strategic Plan
03/04/2014	14-014	NRC Proposes FY 2015 Budget to Congress; Detailed Budget Slides Available
03/04/2014	III-14-006	NRC Names New Resident Inspector at Prairie Island Nuclear Station

February

Date	Document Number	Description
02/28/2014	14-013	NRC Meeting March 13-14 in Rockville, Md., Seeks Input on Reactor Fuel Behavior During Postulated Accidents
02/28/2014	14-012	NRC Issues Final Environmental Impact Statement On Ross Uranium Recovery Project in Wyoming
02/27/2014	14-011	NRC Advisory Committee on Medical Uses of Isotopes Names New Members
02/25/2014	14-010	NRC Chairman Urges African Nations to Develop Strong, Independent Regulators When Pursuing Nuclear Power Development
02/21/2014	14-009	NRC Seeks Public Comment on Draft Environmental Report for Callaway Nuclear Plant License Renewal – Meetings Scheduled for March 19
02/21/2014	II-14-006	NRC Schedules Enforcement Conference for Louisiana Energy Services/URENCO USA
02/21/2014	II-14-005	NRC Schedules Meeting to Discuss Seismic Plan at Westinghouse Fuel Facility
02/19/2014	III-14-005	NRC Increases Oversight of Duane Arnold Nuclear Power Plant
02/19/2014	IV-14-003	NRC to Hold Public Meeting to Discuss Status of Fort Calhoun Nuclear Station
02/11/2014	III-14-004	NRC Regional Office to Discuss Davis-Besse Steam Generator Installation: Webinar to be Held on February 20
02/11/2014	14-008	Atomic Safety and Licensing Board to Hold Oral Argument On Dresden Confirmatory Order March 6 in Morris, Ill
02/11/2014	I-14-006	NRC Assigns New Resident Inspector to Limerick Generating Station
02/11/2014	14-007	NRC's Strides in Post-Fukushima Efforts, Enhancing Regulation Featured in International Atomic Energy Agency Report
02/10/2014	14-006	NRC Approves Power Uprate for Fermi Nuclear Power Plant
02/10/2014	14-005	NRC Approves Power Uprates for Braidwood and Byron Nuclear Power Plants in Illinois
02/06/2014	I-14-005	NRC Proposes $3,500 Fine for Pennsylvania-based Firm Over Temporary Loss of Nuclear Gauge in West Virginia
02/04/2014	III-14-003	NRC Cites LaSalle Unit 2 for an Issue Involving a Reactor Shutdown
02/03/2014	I-14-004	NRC Begins Special Inspection at Millstone Unit 3 Nuclear Power Plant

January

Date	Document Number	Description
01/30/2014	14-004	NRC Issues Final Environmental Impact Statement on Dewey-Burdock Uranium Recovery Project
01/29/2014	II-14-004	NRC Schedules Meeting to Discuss Flooding Preparations at Watts Bar Nuclear Plant
01/29/2014	I-14-003	NRC Names New Senior Resident Inspector at Hope Creek Nuclear Plant
01/28/2014	II-14-003	NRC Schedules Meeting to Discuss Flooding Preparations at Sequoyah Nuclear Plant
01/27/2014	I-14-002	NRC Dispatches Special Inspection Team to Calvert Cliffs Nuclear Power Plant
01/23/2014	14-003	NRC Revises Review Schedule for Waste Confidence Environmental Study and Final Rule
01/21/2014	II-14-002	NRC Begins Special Inspection at Farley Nuclear Power Plant
01/21/2014	II-14-001	NRC Schedules Regulatory Performance Meeting for Browns Ferry Nuclear Plant
01/16/2014	IV-14-002	NRC Names New Resident Inspector at South Texas Project Plant
01/16/2014	14-002	NRC Updates Agency's Consumer Products Policy Statement
01/15/2014	IV-14-001	NRC to Meet with Officials from Wolf Creek Nuclear Plant
01/10/2014	III-14-002	NRC Proposes $3,500 Civil Penalty to University of Michigan
01/09/2014	14-001	Registration Opens for NRC's 2014 Regulatory Information Conference

01/07/2014 I-14-001	NRC to Conduct Public Meeting on Jan. 16 to Receive Comments on Crystal River 3 Decommissioning Activities Report
01/02/2014 III-14-001	NRC Schedules Regulatory Conference to Discuss Apparent Violation at Duane Arnold Nuclear Plant

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June

Date	Document Number	Description
06/15/2015	IV-15-015	NRC Names New Senior Resident Inspector at the Grand Gulf Nuclear Power Plant
06/09/2015	III-15-017	NRC Schedules Open House June 18 to Discuss Performance of Fermi Power Plant
06/09/2015	I-15-029	NRC to Hold Regulatory Performance Public Meeting Regarding Seabrook Nuclear Power Plant on June 18
06/08/2015	15-038	NRC Approves Measures to Reposition Agency for the future
06/05/2015	15-037	NRC Approves Changes to San Onofre Nuclear Plant's Emergency Planning Requirements
06/03/2015	15-036	NRC, FEMA Seek Comment on Draft Update to Guidance for Nuclear Power Plant Emergency Preparedness
06/03/2015	15-035	NRC Licensing Board to Hear Oral Arguments on Diablo Canyon Issues July 9 in Rockville, MD
06/02/2015	III-15-016	NRC Schedules Open House June 11 to Discuss Performance of Davis-Besse Nuclear Plant
06/02/2015	I-15-028	NRC to Conduct Open House on June 11th in Berwick, Pa., to Discuss 2014 Performance of Susquehanna Nuclear Power Plant
06/01/2015	IV-15-014	NRC Schedules Regulatory Conference to Discuss Apparent Violation At Columbia Generating Station
06/01/2015	IV-15-013	NRC to Discuss Performance Assessment For Diablo Canyon Nuclear Power Plant

May

Date	Document Number	Description
05/26/2015	I-15-027	NRC Names New Resident Inspector at Calvert Cliffs Nuclear Plant
05/21/2015	I-15-026	NRC, Army Corps to Take Public Comments on Draft Environmental Report for Application to Build New Nuclear Power Plant in Salem Township, Pa.
05/21/2015	II-15-037	NRC Schedules Meeting May 27 to Discuss Major Projects at Oconee Nuclear Power Plant
05/21/2015	III-15-015	NRC Schedules Open House May 28 to Discuss Performance of Perry Nuclear Plant
05/20/2015	15-034	Cybersecurity Forum Meets to Discuss Cyber Risk Assessment and Management
05/19/2015	I-15-025	NRC to Hold Annual Assessment Public Meeting Regarding Oyster Creek Nuclear Power Plant on May 28
05/19/2015	I-15-024	NRC Begins Special Inspection at Indian Point 3 Nuclear Power Plant to Review Issue Associated with Transformer Event on May 9
05/18/2015	15-033	10th Annual Fuel Cycle Information Exchange to be Held June 9-10 in Rockville, Md.

05/15/2015III-15-014	NRC Schedules Open House May 19 to Discuss Performance of Braidwood and Dresden Nuclear Plants
05/13/2015I-15-023	NRC to Conduct Open House May 21 in Limerick, Pa., to Discuss 2014 Performance of Limerick Nuclear Power Plant
05/13/201515-032	NRC Requires Additional Earthquake Risk Analysis for Two Western U.S. Reactors
05/12/2015I-15-022	NRC to Hold Regulatory Performance Public Meeting Regarding Indian Point Nuclear Power Plant on May 20th
05/12/201515-031	NRC Seeks Comment on Draft Environmental Study For Medical Radioisotope Production Facility
05/11/2015II-15-036	NRC Schedules Open House May 21 to Discuss 2014 Assessment of Harris Nuclear Power Plant
05/08/2015III-15-013	NRC Schedules Open House May 14 to Discuss Performance of Byron Nuclear Station
05/07/2015II-15-035	NRC Schedules Public Meeting May 14 to Discuss Agency's 2014 Assessment of Browns Ferry Nuclear Plant
05/05/2015III-15-012	NRC Schedules Meeting May 13 to Discuss Prairie Island Nuclear Power Plant

April

Date	Document Number	Description
04/30/201515-030		NRC Concludes Hearing On Fermi New Reactor, Combined Licensed To Be Issued
04/29/2015IV-15-012		NRC Finalizes Security-Related Inspection Finding for Comanche Peak Nuclear Power Plant, Resulting in Additional Oversight
04/29/201515-029		NRC, Tennessee Valley Authority Meeting May 5 in Rockville, MD to Discuss Emergency Planning for Proposed Clinch River Site
04/28/201515-028		NRC Issues Final Environmental Impact Statement for Davis-Besse Nuclear Power Plant License Renewal
04/27/2015I-15-021		NRC Finalizes 'Yellow', 'White' Inspection Findings for Oyster Creek Nuclear Power Plant; Level of Oversight to be Increased
04/27/2015IV-15-011		NRC To Discuss 2014 Performance Assessment for Arkansas Nuclear One
04/27/2015II-15-034		NRC Schedules Meeting to Discuss Safety Performance of Global Nuclear Fuel Plant in Wilmington
04/24/201515-027		NRC to Discuss Zion License Termination Plan, Take Comments at Public Meeting
04/24/2015III-15-011		NRC Schedules Open House Apr. 29 to Discuss Performance of LaSalle Nuclear Station
04/24/201515-026		NRC Seeks Comment on Draft Environmental Impact Statement For Bell Bend New Reactor
04/22/2015I-15-020		NRC to Conduct Open House April 28 in Oswego, N.Y., to Discuss 2014 Performance of Nine Mile Point Nuclear Power Plant
04/21/2015I-15-019		NRC to Conduct Webinar April 27 on Annual Assessment for Oyster Creek Nuclear Power Plant
04/21/2015II-15-033		NRC Cites Honeywell Metropolis Facility for Failure to Properly Classify Emergency Event in October 2014
04/21/2015II-15-032		NRC Schedules Open House April 29 to Discuss Agency's 2014 Assessment of Robinson Nuclear Plant
04/21/2015II-15-031		NRC Schedules Open House April 29 to Discuss Agency's 2014 Assessment of North Anna Nuclear Station
04/21/201515-025		NRC Issues Violations, Proposed Fine for Actions Related to Reactor Construction Incident at Chicago Bridge & Iron
04/20/2015II-15-030		NRC Schedules Open House April 28 to Discuss Agency's 2014 Assessment of Surry Nuclear Station
04/20/2015II-15-029		NRC Schedules Open House April 28 to Discuss Agency's 2014 Assessment of Brunswick Nuclear Plant

04/20/2015I-15-018	NRC to Conduct Open House on April 23 in Oswego, N.Y., to Discuss 2014 Performance of James A. FitzPatrick Nuclear Power Plant
04/15/201515-024	NRC Approves Final Rule on Packaging and Transporting Radioactive Materials
04/15/2015II-15-028	NRC Schedules Meetings to Discuss Agency's Assessment of Vogtle Nuclear Plant Units 1 and 2 Operation, and Units 3 and 4 Construction
04/15/2015II-15-027	NRC Schedules Public Meeting April 23 in Erwin to Discuss NFS Safety Performance
04/15/2015II-15-026	NRC Schedules Meetings to Receive Public Comments on Draft Environmental Impact Statement for Proposed Turkey Point Nuclear Units 6 and 7
04/14/2015I-15-017	NRC to Conduct Open House April 21 in Ontario, N.Y., to Discuss 2014 Performance of R.E. Ginna Nuclear Power Plant
04/14/2015II-15-025	NRC Schedules Open House April 22 to Discuss Agency's 2014 Assessment of Hatch Nuclear Plant
04/14/2015II-15-024	NRC Schedules Public Meeting April 21 in Piketon to Discuss Lead Cascade Facility
04/13/2015II-15-023	NRC Schedules Open House April 21 to Discuss Agency's 2014 Assessment of Farley Nuclear Plant
04/13/2015II-15-022	NRC Begins Special Inspection at NFS Facility in Erwin
04/13/2015I-15-016	NRC Sends Special Inspection Team to Calvert Cliffs Nuclear Plant
04/13/2015III-15-010	NRC Schedules Meeting April 20 to Discuss Point Beach Nuclear Power Plant
04/10/201515-023	NRC Approves Indirect Transfer of Operating Licenses for Susquehanna Nuclear Power Plant
04/09/2015I-15-015	NRC to Conduct Open House on April 16th in Prince Frederick, Md.,to Discuss 2014 Performance of Calvert Cliffs Nuclear Power Plant
04/08/2015I-15-014	NRC to Conduct Open House April 16 in Delta, Pa., to Discuss 2014 Performance of Peach Bottom Nuclear Plant
04/08/2015III-15-009	NRC Schedules Meeting April 16 to Discuss Duane Arnold Nuclear Power Plant
04/08/2015IV-15-010	NRC Says Wolf Creek Nuclear Plant Has Improved Work Environment
04/07/2015I-15-013	NRC Staff to Meet with Connecticut Nuclear Energy Advisory Council April 14 to Discuss Millstone Nuclear Plant Annual Assessment
04/07/2015II-15-021	NRC Schedules Public Meeting To Discuss Safety Performance of Babcock & Wilcox Nuclear Operations Group Facility in Lynchburg
04/07/2015II-15-020	NRC Schedules Meeting to Discuss Performance at Mixed Oxide Facility
04/07/2015II-15-019	NRC Schedules Meetings to Discuss Agency's Assessment of Summer Nuclear Plant Unit 1 Operation and Units 2 and 3 Construction
04/06/2015II-15-018	NRC Schedules Meeting to Discuss Safety Performance of Westinghouse Nuclear Fuel Plant in Columbia
04/06/2015II-15-017	NRC Schedules Meeting April 14 to Discuss Agency's Assessment of Oconee Nuclear Plant
04/03/2015III-15-008	NRC Schedules Public Meeting Apr. 9 to Discuss Performance of Palisades Nuclear Power Station
04/02/2015I-15-012	NRC Finalizes Security-Related Inspection Finding for Millstone Nuclear Power Plant, Resulting in Additional Oversight
04/01/2015IV-15-009	NRC Schedules Regulatory Conference to Discuss Apparent Violation at Waterford 3
04/01/2015I-15-011	NRC to Conduct Open House on April 9th in Shippingport, Pa., to Discuss 2014 Performance of Beaver Valley Nuclear Power Plant
04/01/2015IV-15-008	NRC Will Hold an Open House on River Bend Nuclear Plant Performance
04/01/2015II-15-016	NRC Schedules Open House to Discuss McGuire Nuclear Plant 2014 Performance
04/01/2015III-15-007	NRC Proposes $17,500 civil Penalty to Kewaunee Nuclear Power Plant
04/01/201515-022	NRC Agrees to Changes in Crystal River Nuclear Plant's Emergency Programs

March

Date	Document Number	Description
03/31/2015II-15-015		NRC Schedules Open House to Discuss Catawba Nuclear Plant 2014 Performance

03/31/2015II-15-014	NRC to Increase Oversight of Vogtle Nuclear Power Plant
03/30/2015IV-15-007	NRC Returns Fort Calhoun to Normal Reactor Oversight Program; Public Meeting Scheduled for April 9
03/30/2015I-15-010	NRC to Conduct Open House on April 7th in Middletown, Pa., to Discuss 2014 Performance of Three Mile Island 1 Nuclear Plant
03/30/2015IV-15-006	NRC Begins Special Inspection at River Bend Station
03/30/2015II-15-013	NRC Schedules Open House to Discuss Sequoyah Nuclear Plant 2014 Performance
03/27/2015I-15-009	NRC Names New Resident Inspector at Oyster Creek Nuclear Plant
03/26/201515-021	NRC Seeks Public Comment on Proposed Changes to Regulations on Low-Level Radioactive Waste Disposal
03/25/2015III-15-006	NRC to Discuss Performance of Clinton Nuclear Power Station April 1
03/25/201515-020	NRC Invites Nominations for the Advisory Committee on Reactor Safeguards
03/25/201515-019	NRC Seeks Public Comment on Draft Environmental Study of Braidwood Nuclear Plant License Renewal Application
03/23/201515-018	NRC Proposes to Amend Licensing, Inspection, and Annual Fees Regulations
03/20/201515-017	NRC Issues Final Environmental Report on Sequoyah Nuclear Plant License Renewal
03/20/2015II-15-012	NRC Schedules Open House and Meeting to Discuss Watts Bar Unit 2 Construction
03/20/2015III-15-005	NRC Schedules Public Meeting March 26 to Discuss Performance of Monticello Nuclear Power Plant
03/18/2015I-15-008	NRC to Conduct Open House on March 25th in Salem, N.J., to Discuss 2014 Performance of Salem and Hope Creek Nuclear Plants
03/17/2015II-15-011	NRC Schedules Meeting with Southern and SCANA to Discuss Inspections and Testing of New Nuclear Units at the Vogtle and Summer Sites
03/16/2015I-15-007	NRC Assigns New Senior Resident Inspector To Oyster Creek Nuclear Plant
03/13/2015II-15-010	NRC Issues Order to Honeywell to Address Discrimination Concerns
03/12/201515-016	NRC Staff to Prepare Supplement to Yucca Mountain Environmental Impact Statement
03/11/2015II-15-009	NRC Proposes $70,000 Fine for Violations at Sequoyah Nuclear Plant
03/09/2015I-15-006	NRC To Hold Regulatory Performance Public Meeting Regarding Pilgrim Nuclear Power Plant on March 18th
03/09/2015II-15-008	NRC Schedules Open House to Discuss Annual Assessment of Watts Bar Nuclear Plant Unit 1
03/09/2015II-15-007	NRC Schedules Open House to Discuss Annual Assessment of Turkey Point Nuclear Plant
03/09/2015II-15-006	NRC Schedules Open House to Discuss Annual Assessment of St. Lucie Nuclear Plant
03/09/201515-015	NRC Seeks Comment On Draft Environmental Impact Statement For Turkey Point New Reactors, Public Meetings in April
03/06/201515-014	NRC Renews Operating License of Callaway Nuclear Plant in Missouri
03/06/201515-013	NRC Issues Annual Assessments for Nation's Nuclear Plants
03/05/2015II-15-005	NRC Returns NFS Facility in Erwin, Tenn., to Normal Agency Oversight and Inspection
03/04/201515-012	NRC To Begin Full Certification Review of APR1400 Reactor
03/04/2015III-15-004	NRC Will Continue Increased Oversight of Monticello Nuclear Plant
03/02/201515-011	NRC Meeting March 13 in Rockville, Md to Discuss Fukushima Lessons at Facilities Other Than Operating U.S. Nuclear Power Plants
03/02/201515-010	NRC's Gabriel Taylor Honored as a Federal Engineer of the Year

February

Date	Document Number	Description
02/27/2015III-15-003		NRC Has Increased Oversight of Palisades Nuclear Power Plant
02/23/2015II-15-004		NRC Begins Special Inspection at Summer Nuclear Plant Unit 2 Construction Site
02/18/201515-009		NRC Report Focuses on Agency's Future
02/12/2015IV-15-005		NRC Issues White Finding to Diablo Canyon Nuclear Power Plant
02/10/2015III-15-002		NRC Proposed $3,500 Fine To An Indiana Engineering Consulting Company

02/09/2015I-15-005	NRC Assigns New Senior Resident Inspector to Limerick Nuclear Plant
02/06/201515-008	NRC Advisory Committee Member Honored by National Academy of Engineering
02/06/2015I-15-004	NRC To Hold Public Meeting Feb. 19 To Receive Comments On Vermont Yankee Nuclear Plant Decommissioning Report
02/04/201515-007	NRC Announces Hearing Opportunity for LaSalle License Renewal; Public Meetings March 10 to Discuss Environmental Review
02/02/201515-006	NRC Proposes FY 2016 Budget to Congress; NRC Spending, Staffing Declining
02/02/2015I-15-003	NRC Initiates Special Inspection at Pilgrim Nuclear Power Plant

January

Date	Document Number	Description
01/29/201515-005		NRC Publishes Final Two Volumes of Yucca Mountain Safety Evaluation Report
01/26/2015IV-15-004		NRC Names New Resident Inspector at Callaway Nuclear Plant
01/26/2015IV-15-003		NRC Begins Special Inspection at River Bend Station
01/23/2015IV-15-002		NRC Issues Two Yellow Findings to Arkansas Nuclear One
01/22/2015I-15-002		NRC to Conduct Webinar on Feb. 5th on Vermont Yankee Nuclear Power Plant Decommissioning Topics
01/22/2015II-15-003		NRC Names New Senior Resident Inspector for Mixed Oxide Facility
01/21/201515-004		NRC to Hold Mandatory Hearing on Fermi New Reactor Application Feb. 4 in Rockville, Md.
01/08/2015II-15-002		NRC Schedules Public Meeting to Discuss Mixed Oxide Fuel Project
01/07/201515-003		NRC Seeks Public Comment on Draft Environmental Study of Byron Station License Renewal Application
01/07/2015I-15-001		NRC Accepting Public Comments on Decommissioning Plan for Vermont Yankee Nuclear Power Plant
01/07/2015III-15-001		NRC Schedules Regulatory Conference to Discuss Apparent Violation at Palisades Nuclear Plant
01/06/201515-002		Registration Opens for NRC's 2015 Regulatory Information Conference
01/05/201515-001		NRC Meeting Jan. 14 to Discuss Status of Watts Bar Unit 2 Licensing, Construction Schedule
01/05/2015IV-15-001		NRC Names New Resident Inspector at Fort Calhoun Station
01/05/2015II-15-001		ASLB Schedules Oral Argument Session on Turkey Point Canal Temperature Issue

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OIG Reports: Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) – FY 2014 Index

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A recommendation can have a status of:

- **Unresolved** – Proposed corrective actions are inadequate or nonresponsive.
- **Resolved** – Proposed corrective actions are responsive, but not yet complete.
- **Closed** – Corrective actions are responsive and considered by OIG to be complete or staff rationale for taking no action is considered to be acceptable.

Report Title	Date	Number	Status of Recommendations
Audit of NRC's Communications Security Program	09/29/2014	OIG-14-A-21	12/10/2014
Audit of NRC'S Sequestration Process	09/15/2014	OIG-14-A-20	10/28/2014
Audit of NRC's Process for Revising Management Directives	09/15/2014	OIG-14-A-19	11/25/2014
Audit of NRC's Method for Retaining and Documenting Information Supporting the Yucca Mountain Licensing Process	07/23/2014	OIG-14-A-18	No Recommendations
Audit Of NRC's Freedom Of Information Act Process	06/16/2014	OIG-14-A-17	08/19/2014
Audit of NRC's Oversight of Reciprocity Licensees	05/22/2014	OIG-14-A-16	No Recommendations
Audit of NRC's Cyber Security Inspection Program for Nuclear Power Plants	05/07/2014	OIG-14-A-15	No Recommendations
Audit of NRC's FY13 Compliance With the Improper Payments Elimination & Recovery Act of 2010	04/08/2014	OIG-14-A-14	No Recommendations
Transmittal of the Independent Auditors' Report on the Condensed Financial Statements	03/31/2014	OIG-14-A-13	No Recommendations
Survey of NRC's Support Provided to Resident Inspectors	03/18/2014	OIG-14-A-12	04/07/2015 11/26/2014 05/01/2014
Audit of NRC'S Implementation of the Federal Managers' Financial Integrity Act For Fiscal Year 2013	02/25/2014	OIG-14-A-11	No Recommendations
Audit of NRC's Process For Addressing Bankruptcy of Materials Licensees	01/16/2014	OIG-14-A-10	01/08/2015 02/27/2014
Audit of NRC's Implementation of Its National Environmental Policy Act Responsibilities	12/24/2013	OIG-14-A-09	01/21/2015 02/24/2014
Audit of NRC's Use of the NEWFlex Program	12/19/2013	OIG-14-A-08	12/18/2014 02/11/2014
Independent Auditors' Report on the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission's Closing Package Financial Statements as of September 30, 2013 and 2012, and for the Years then Ended	12/17/2013	OIG-14-A-07	No Recommendations
Results of the Audit of the United States Nuclear Regulatory Commission's Financial Statements for FY13 & FY12	12/09/2013	OIG-14-A-06	No Recommendations

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Audit of NRC's Full-Time Telework	12/11/2013OIG-14-A-05	12/04/2014 03/11/2014
Audit of NRC's Information Technology Governance	12/09/2013OIG-14-A-04	03/23/2015 12/10/2014 01/29/2014
Independent Evaluation of NRC's Implementation of the Federal Information Security Management Act for Fiscal Year 2013	11/22/2013OIG-14-A-03	01/14/2014
Audit of NRC's Oversight of Active Component Aging	10/28/2013OIG-14-A-02	01/14/2015 07/23/2014 01/30/2014
Inspector General's Assessment of the Most Serious Management and Performance Challenges Facing NRC	10/02/2013OIG-14-A-01	No Recommendations

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OIG Reports: Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) – FY 2015 Index

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Report Title	Date	Number	Status of Recommendations
Audit of NRC's Internal Controls Over Fee Revenue	03/19/2015	OIG-15-A-12	
Audit of NRC's Fiscal Year 2014 Compliance with Improper Payment Laws	03/16/2015	OIG-15-A-11	
Transmittal of the Independent Auditors' Report on the Summary Financial Statements	02/12/2015	OIG-15-A-10	No Recommendations
Audit of NRC'S IT Technology Procurement Process	02/11/2015	OIG-15-A-09	04/02/2015
Audit of NRC's Process for Ensuring Integrity in Scientific Research	02/10/2015	OIG-15-A-08	04/06/2015
Audit of NRC's Implementation of the Federal Managers' Financial Integrity Act For Fiscal Year 2014	02/10/2015	OIG-15-A-07	No Recommendations
Audit of NRC's Oversight of Spent Fuel Pools	02/10/2015	OIG-15-A-06	04/29/2015
Audit of NRC's Task Interface Agreement Process	11/25/2014	OIG-15-A-05	01/29/2015
Independent Auditors' Report on the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission's Closing Package Financial Statements as of September 30, 2014 and 2013 and for the Years then Ended	11/18/2014	OIG-15-A-04	No Recommendations
Results of the Audit of the United States Nuclear Regulatory Commission's Financial Statements for Fiscal Years 2014 and 2013	11/14/2014	OIG-15-A-03	No Recommendations
Independent Evaluation of NRC's Implementation of the Federal Information Security Management Act for Fiscal Year 2014	11/13/2014	OIG-15-A-02	01/20/2015
Inspector General's Assessment of the Most Serious Management and Performance Challenges	10/16/2014	OIG-15-A-01	No Recommendations
NRC Oversight of Licensee's Use of 10 CFR 50.59 Process to Replace SONG'S Steam Generators (Case No. 13-006)	10/07/2014	OIG-13-006	No Recommendations

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FRAUD AWARENESS

OFFICE OF THE INSPECTOR GENERAL

2006

U.S. NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

A5

FRAUD AWARENESS

OFFICE OF THE INSPECTOR GENERAL

2006

U.S. NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

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I. MESSAGE FROM THE INSPECTOR GENERAL

The Inspector General Act of 1978, as amended in 1988, states that one of the reasons for establishing the Office of the Inspector General (OIG) is

> . . . to provide leadership and coordination . . . for activities designed . . . to promote economy, efficiency, and effectiveness . . . and . . . to prevent and detect fraud and abuse . . ..

The U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) OIG Fraud Awareness Program was established to educate NRC employees about Federal statutes and regulations applicable to fraud, inform them about common schemes used to perpetrate fraud, and advise them of reporting obligations so that they can fulfill their obligations as Government employees.

This brochure has been prepared as part of OIG's ongoing efforts to educate, inform, and support you, the NRC employee, in avoiding and preventing fraud and abuse.

Hubert T. Bell
Inspector General

II. INTRODUCTION

Fraudulent activities waste valuable funding and other resources; fraud also threatens successful achievement of the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission's (NRC's) mission of protecting public health and safety.

What is "Fraud"? Its precise legal definition varies in different statutes and regulations. For purposes of this document, "fraud" is generally intended to convey wrongdoing resulting from an intentional act of deception or dishonesty against NRC.

Agency functions generally have policies or procedures in place that adequately address fraud deterrence — when employees abide by them.

28 U.S.C. § 535 requires NRC employees to report suspected criminal activity, in this case fraud, to the OIG. It is our intent in this pamphlet to increase awareness of NRC personnel to the potential of fraud occurring within the work place.

III. AREAS OF POTENTIAL FRAUD

Experience with fraudulent activities perpetrated against NRC by its employees, contractors, subcontractors, or visitors indicates that such fraud generally falls into the four broad areas discussed next: procurement, time and attendance, travel, and disability claims.

A. PROCUREMENT

NRC's procurement of supplies and services involves the expenditure of millions of dollars. The Division of Contracts (DC) at NRC is responsible for actual procurement and administration of the majority of "large dollar" contract actions. Also, many NRC employees have contract responsibilities as Purchase Card buyers, Project Officers, and Contracting Officers Technical Representatives. In addition, other employees have responsibility for placement and monitoring of reimbursable agreements with other agencies, e.g., Department of Energy laboratory projects.

Some factors may point to the presence of, or may enhance the potential for, perpetrating fraud at various stages in the procurement process. These indicators are not intended, each taken by itself, to establish the existence of fraud. Rather, any of the indicators, when taken in the context of a particular procurement action, should alert NRC employees to the possibility of impropriety and to the need to take appropriate actions to ensure the integrity of the process.

The motives for committing fraud in the contract process are varied. Many instances of fraud have been perpetrated to obtain a contract in order to create the opportunity to later engage in such activities as theft or embezzlement, substitution of products, mischarging of costs, or progress payment fraud. Some contractors commit fraud to obtain a

contract at a higher price or one with better terms than those in an award untainted by fraud. Still others fraudulently obtain Government contracts because they need the business to keep their companies in operation when activity in the private sector is low.

Another factor to be considered is that fraud is sometimes committed by, or with the assistance of, Government employees. The possibility should not be overlooked that a Government employee has solicited or accepted bribes or gratuities or has a financial interest in a contractor. In some instances, an agency's employees have created, or become partners in, outside businesses for the sole purpose of committing fraud through their ability to affect or manipulate the award process.

Most of the people participating in NRC programs or involved in their administration comply with all of the applicable rules and regulations. However, the ability to recognize certain potential indicators of fraud during the procurement process can have a deterrent effect on fraud and thereby enhance the integrity of the program.

Various personnel at all levels may become involved directly or indirectly in the procurement process. DC carries out a major portion of the agency's direct procurement. Of course, many others are responsible for monitoring indirect procurement, i.e., program funds expended by program participants through third-party contracts, or work orders to National laboratories. In both direct and indirect situations, involved employees should determine the degree to which procurement actions comply with the administrative requirements dictated by the Federal Acquisition Regulation (FAR), NRC Acquisition Regulation, Office of Management and Budget circulars, NRC Management Directives (MDs), and Federal or State and local laws.

Common indicators of fraud in procurement include the following:

- "Sole source" contracts are awarded unnecessarily or "second sources" are not developed.
- Specifications improperly describe needs in ways that can be met only by certain contractors.
- Prequalification standards in specifications unnecessarily exclude otherwise qualified contractors.
- Contracts are modified to increase the price immediately after the contract is signed.
- Contractors are provided with advance "inside" information.
- Requirements are divided to qualify for simplified or small-purchase procedures to avoid contract-review procedures.

CONTRACT FRAUD SCHEMES

Substitution of Products

In this scheme, a contractor certifies that goods or services are being provided in accordance with contract specifications when, in reality, the contractor has provided a substitute or inferior product. NRC contracting procedures allow for changes in performance only with the knowledge and prior approval of the contracting officer. A contractor's unilateral decision to alter performance standards and

falsify contract certifications can lead to criminal liability.
Some of the indicators of, and conditions associated with, product substitution are the following:

- contractor's unauthorized quality assurance practices,
- history of poor performance by the contractor,
- awards to unusually low bidders,
- misuse of "fast pay" procedures,
- reliance by Government quality assurance representatives on unverified documentation which has been falsified by a contractor, and
- inadequate Government quality assurance oversight.

Mischarging of Costs

In this scheme, costs are charged improperly to NRC cost-type contracts; for example, charges are switched from commercial contracts to NRC contracts, or cost overruns from one task order or Government contract are charged to other task orders or Government contracts.

FAR 31.2 provides specific guidance on allowable and unallowable costs. Mischarges on cost reimbursement contracts can involve improper accounting procedures, material costs, or labor mischarges or all three. In some cases, contractors inflate hours worked, double bill, or substitute unqualified workers who get paid less, allowing the contractor to pocket the extra money.

Indicators of cost mischarging are:

- Contractor employees frequently reassigned to different projects.
- Contractor employees identified in the proposal not assigned to contract after award.

Kickbacks

Payments made for the purpose of improperly obtaining or rewarding favorable treatment in relation to a Government contract constitute a kickback. Although such payments are similar in many ways to bribing a Government official, kickbacks, until recently, had not been the focus of public attention and little had been done to address the problem. Congress strengthened the original 1946 kickback statute in 1986 (see 41 U.S.C. sections 51 through 58) to make it illegal for any person to provide, attempt to provide, or offer a kickback to a Government contractor or a contractor's employee for the purpose of improperly obtaining any favorable treatment under a Government contract. The prohibition covers any money, commission, gratuity, or anything else of value, whether paid directly or indirectly, and applies equally to persons who solicit, accept, or attempt to generate kickbacks. The legislation further prohibits the inclusion of any kickback amounts in the contract price charged by a contractor.

Indications of kickbacks include the following:

- The same contractor repeatedly awarded competitive contracts based on bids only slightly lower in price than the next lowest competitor.
- Relationships which are "too close" are observed between contractor and Government officials.
- Unexplained wealth or change of life style by Government official.

B. TIME AND ATTENDANCE FRAUD

Time and Attendance (T&A) concerns accounting for the hours employees are present for, or absent from, official duty status. Fraud, abuse, and mismanagement in this area occur all too often in Government. Some of this is due to willful intent or lack of internal management controls.

Who is Responsible?

Entering and approving incorrect data in the Human Resources and Management Support (HRMS) System is among the most common abuses. Done inadvertently, it represents sloppy work and poor management. Done deliberately, this is fraud. Employees are responsible for entering the correct data; supervisors and administrative officers who review and approve T&A data in HRMS and sign the Summary Approval Reports (SARs) are responsible for certifying the accuracy and validity of the data.

Supervisors control the T&A reporting process by

(1) assigning T&A timekeeping, coordinating, and reviewing duties to employees within their offices,

(2) certifying the attendance and leave reported, and

(3) reconciling leave and overtime reports with T&A documents.

Types of T&A Fraud

- Conducting personal business at work

  Conducting personal business during hours charged to official duty is also an abuse. Deminimus, or limited activities of a personal nature, are permitted as described in MD 2.3, *Telecommunications*, and MD 2.7, *Personal Use of Information Technology*.

Conducting a "for profit" business, e.g., real estate sales, is always improper. In many instances, this involves not only wasting Government time, but also the use of Government resources, such as the telephone, the photocopier, the fax machine, and office supplies.

- Travel Status

  Travel makes many aspects of T&A more vulnerable to abuse. Supervisors should ensure that the travel is necessary and should check the traveler's work products, time reports, and travel vouchers to detect possible T&A violations.

Deterring Fraud in the T&A Process

To deter fraud in the T&A process, managers can take the following actions:

- Compare leave reported on the SAR with approved leave requests (OPM-71). Ensure all leave taken, including that not requiring an OPM 71, is reported.

- Compare overtime reported on the SAR with the overtime authorizations (NRC Form 145). Also review work performed on overtime to verify hours.

- Check T&A forms to assure they are completed correctly and signed.

- Ensure that supervisors and timekeepers do not approve their own T&A forms.

- Discuss discrepancies with employees.

- Assure adequate training on leave/compressed/flexible schedule regulations and policies.

C. TRAVEL

Government travelers need to be aware of and avoid potential fraud in conducting official travel.

Transportation

The basic rule is that the choice of transportation should result in the greatest advantage to the Government. This involves the total cost of a trip, including per diem allowance, any lost work time, any overtime pay, and the actual transportation costs. Travel by common carrier, such as scheduled airlines, trains, or buses, usually results in the most efficient use of resources and in the least costly method of travel.

Government-Furnished Motor Vehicles

Official use does not generally include transportation between an employee's place of residence and place of employment unless specifically authorized in writing. (See MD 13.4 Handbook, Part II, Paragraph (B)(5).

Privately Owned Vehicles (POVs)

A POV may be used if its use is advantageous to the Government and if common carrier transportation or Government-furnished vehicle transportation is not reasonably available. Travelers requesting POV authorization should obtain written approval in advance.
(See MD 13.4, *Transportation Management*, Handbook, Part 4, Paragraph 4.7.1).

Fraud occurs when travelers inflate the number of miles driven on official business.

Rental of Commercial Vehicles

Commercially rented conveyances (such as rental cars) should only be used when it is determined that use of a common carrier, or a Government-furnished vehicle, would not be more advantageous to the Government. However, an employee who travels by a common carrier (such as an airline) to a temporary duty location and is authorized to obtain a vehicle may use a GSA contract rental vehicle as the first source of supply instead of a GSA motor pool vehicle.

Waste is also experienced when Government travelers fail to obtain available rental discounts.

Per Diem Allowance

Travelers should be familiar with per diem allowances and the method of computation. They should exercise the same care and restraint in incurring official expenses as they would if traveling on personal business.

One method of fraud occurs when a traveler submits a voucher claiming full per diem, but neither stays in nor pays for public lodging and submits a falsified receipt for lodging. This occurs when the traveler stays at the residence of someone they know or commutes home daily.

Travel Orders

Generally travel must be approved in writing before incurring any travel expenses. The traveler and the approving official should ensure that orders specify the purpose of the trip and the means of travel.

The use of higher level approval authorities, documenting the official purpose for the travel orders, is an important factor in avoiding abuse.

Travel Vouchers

Claims for reimbursement of temporary duty travel expenses are made on NRC Form 64, and on SF 1164 for local travel. The purpose of the trip and travel accounting classification/subject class(es) should be included. Approving officials should examine each of these closely, as improperly or falsely filled out vouchers are a primary means of committing fraud, waste, and abuse in travel.

Indications of travel fraud have included:

- Inadequate, incomplete or handwritten receipts.
- Travel requests and orders signed by the same person.
- Per diem claimed during periods of annual leave.

Rebates to the Traveler (Frequent Flyer Miles)

Generally, rebates or other material of value received by the traveler while on official duty become the property of the U.S. Government. Frequent Flyer programs are a noteworthy exception. Recent changes permit Federal employees to retain, for personal use, promotional benefits received in conjunction with official travel. While Federal employees may participate in programs offered by many airlines and other travel companies, they are responsible for any additional costs.

Additionally, MD 14.1 provides additional details and restrictions related to these programs. In accordance with conditions related in MD 14.1, Handbook, Part 4, Paragraphs 4.5-4.6.2, travelers may accept benefits (often free flight coupons) for ***voluntarily*** giving up their seat on oversold flights (i.e., cannot compromise the mission, cannot receive extra per diem).

However, if the traveler is ***involuntarily*** denied boarding by the airline due to an oversold condition, any compensation repayment or vouchers become the property of the NRC.

D. DISABILITY PAYMENTS

The Federal Employees' Compensation Act (FECA) was enacted in 1916 to provide payments for disabled Federal employees. Guidance on the FECA process is provided in 20 CFR Part 10.

18 U.S.C. § 1920 makes a knowingly false claim for these benefits a crime punishable by up to $2,000 fine or 1 year in prison or both.

Fraud under FECA includes false claims for injury occurring outside the workplace, claims when there is no injury at all and continuation of claims after the disability ended.

Indications of FECA fraud have included the following:

- The claimant is never home — person who answers the telephone says claimant "just stepped out."
- The claimant goes to a physician used by many claimants who have more subjective than objective type of medical conditions.
- The claimant can show little or no medical expenses.
- The claimant had a recent problem with a manager or supervisor.
- Wording of the medical report suggests the physician's skepticism about the claimant's description of the disability, particularly with soft tissue cases.

- The accident

  - is described inconsistently with the nature of the injury;
  - has no witnesses;
  - occurs after proposed or anticipated adverse personnel action.

- Claim is not reported timely.

- Information about the incident is inconsistent with the actual report.

Managers can help deter FECA fraud by full compliance with the reporting requirements described in 20 CFR Part 10.

IV. PROSECUTING FRAUD

In addition to guarding against the types of fraud covered by the statutes noted below, it is important to recognize fraud in its broad context. Fraud is characterized by acts of guile, deceit, trickery, concealment, or breach of confidence that are committed to gain some unfair or dishonest advantage. The objective may be to obtain money, property, or services; to avoid the payment or loss of money, property, or services; or to secure business or personal advantage. Perpetrators of fraud may incur criminal, civil, contractual, and/or administrative penalties.

Criminal Penalties

Criminal penalties are available to *punish* contractors and Government employees who commit fraud. The following statutes generally address acts of criminal fraud:

- *False Statements (18 U.S.C. § 1001).* This statute renders the willful making of an untrue official statement a crime.

  Thus, an employee or contractor could be prosecuted under this statute for committing fraudulent acts including, swearing to an untrue statement on a financial disclosure form or on an application for a Government entitlement program or for any form of payment. This can be a voucher, a T&A report, or a FECA application.

- *False Claims (18 U.S.C. § 287).* This statute renders it illegal to knowingly submit a claim to the Government for money that is undeserved. False travel claims and contract vouchers are examples of this type of fraud.

- *Conspiracy to Defraud (18 U.S.C. § 371).* This statute renders it illegal to agree with another person, or to take joint action, to defraud the Government.

A conspiracy is defined as two or more persons agreeing to commit a crime. Society views conspiracy as a serious offense and worthy of separate punishment because two or more persons working together can do more harm than one and because a conspirator, by definition, must have planned or "premeditated" the crime.

Thus, a supervisor who agreed with a subordinate to falsify the overtime on timecards would have entered into a conspiracy.

- *Mail and Wire Fraud (18 U.S.C. §§ 1341 and 1343).* These statutes render it illegal to use the mail service, telephone lines, or to transmit facsimile or computer data to commit fraud.

  Thus, a contractor mailing a fraudulent invoice to an agency official for reimbursement could be prosecuted for making a false statement, filing a false claim, and committing mail fraud. Wire fraud would be implicated if the telephone were used or if the information were transmitted through a computer modem.

- *Theft and Embezzlement (18 U.S.C. § 641).* This statute renders it illegal to steal, to embezzle, or to have possession of something stolen from the Government.

  Thus, an employee or contractor who, without proper authority, retained Government money or property could be prosecuted for embezzlement.

- *Computer Fraud (18 U.S.C. § 1030).* This statute renders unauthorized access to a Government computer to obtain financial information, affect Government operations, defraud the Government, benefit a foreign nation, or injure the United States as illegal.

  Thus, an employee filing a false claim by accessing a Government database could be prosecuted for making a false statement, filing a false claim, committing wire fraud and computer fraud. If two or more persons were involved, prosecution for conspiracy is also possible.

- *Obstruction of Audit (18 U.S.C. § 1516).* This statute renders it illegal to influence, obstruct, or impede a Federal auditor to deceive or defraud the Government.

  A contractor who manufactures a false receipt to support costs questioned during the course of an audit could be prosecuted under this statute.

- 18 U.S.C. § 201, the bribery statute, prohibits a public official from seeking, accepting, or agreeing to receive or accept anything of value in return for being influenced in the performance of an official act or for being induced to take or fail to take any action in violation of his official duty.

  The United States may seek recovery for bribery from both the payer and payee of the bribe. In addition, pursuant to 18 U.S.C. § 216, the Attorney General may seek to obtain from the recipient of a bribe the amount of the bribe, a $50,000 civil penalty for each violation of the criminal bribery statutes, and injunctive relief.

- 18 U.S.C. § 209, prohibits Government employees, with certain limited exceptions, from receiving any salary or any contribution to or supplementation of salary from any source other than the United States as compensation for services as a Government employee. Payment of a bribe is a violation of this statute.

Civil, Contractual, and Administrative Penalties

Civil, contractual, and administrative penalties are available to *recover* money lost from fraud schemes and to *protect* the Government. Disciplinary actions (e.g., removal, suspension, demotion, or reassignment) against Government employees who commit fraud or who collude with contractors or others in fraudulent conduct may also be taken. Imposition of these penalties does not require the level of proof needed to support a criminal conviction. Actions may be taken even if there is never a criminal prosecution for fraud.

In some instances, investigators have sufficient evidence that a crime occurred, but the circumstances do not result in criminal prosecution. If the Department of Justice (DOJ) declines to prosecute, managers and contracting officials should consider the facts to determine if some other action is warranted.

A criminal conviction does not, without action by Government officials, prevent the contractor from obtaining future contracts or allow the agency to recoup money paid to the contractor as a result of fraud or to obtain the desired or intended performance under the contract.

Managers and contracting officials need to be aware of and to use the civil, administrative, and contractual powers and penalties available to prevent further loss to the Government and to recover Government assets and funds lost through fraud.

The Government has the right to take action against individuals and companies that engage in fraudulent activities. This right is based on several statutory grounds. Some of the civil actions based on those statutes are filed by the DOJ and may be filed in conjunction with, after, or instead of a criminal prosecution.

Other sanctions are imposed by agency officials under administrative regulations. For example, under contract law and principles, the Government has the right to insist on certain standards of responsibility and business integrity from its contractors. The violation of any of those laws or principles gives the Government the right to take action.

Statutes and regulations that address civil, contractual, and administrative penalties include the following:

- *Civil False Claims Act (31 U.S.C. § 3729).* The submittal of a false claim to the Government can make an individual or company liable to the Government, both criminally and civilly. The Civil False Claims Act establishes liability for false claims. It stipulates that the Government can take action to recover

penalties and damages for false claims in addition to, or instead of, resorting to criminal sanctions. Through such actions, the Government can recover assets lost through fraud. The act, as amended, provides for penalties of up to $10,000 plus three times the amount of damages sustained by the Government for each false claim. Each fraudulent invoice submitted by a contractor could, under appropriate circumstances, be considered a false claim for purposes of the act.

- *Forfeiture of Fraudulent Claims (28 U.S.C. § 2514).* In accordance with this statute, the U.S. Court of Claims can order the forfeiture of the entire amount of a claim in which it judges the proof, statement, establishment, or allowance thereof is based on fraud or attempted fraud of a single item. Employees should note that this statute means that a single falsified entry in a travel voucher could result in forfeiture of the entire claim.

The following provisions are specifically applicable to contracts:

- *Contract Disputes Act (41 U.S.C. § 604).* In accordance with this act, a contractor is liable to the Government for the amount of any unsupported part of a claim plus the costs of reviewing the claim if the claim is based even in part on fraud or misrepresentation of fact. The Government does not have to pay the claim in order to recover damages.

- *Procurement Integrity Act (41 U.S.C. § 423).* Although several provisions were repealed, this act still provides for penalties against Government employees and contractors for improper negotiation of employment, offering or accepting gratuities, or disclosure of proprietary information during a procurement. Violation may result in criminal conviction, administrative

actions, and civil penalties, including fines up to $100,000 for individuals and $1 million for contractor companies.

- *Termination for Default.* FAR 52.245, provides that making a false claim or statement in a contract, is evidence of a contractor's irresponsibility and may result in termination for default.

- *Findings of Irresponsibility.* FAR 9.1 requires contractors to demonstrate affirmatively their responsibility, including a satisfactory record of integrity and business ethics. Any evidence of fraud by a contractor is clearly a matter that contracting officers should consider in determining responsibility.

- *Suspension and Debarment.* FAR 9.4. Contractors may be precluded from doing business with the Government for committing fraud or for various other actions indicating a lack of business integrity.

Program Fraud Civil Remedies Act (31 U.S.C. § 3801)

This act allows most Federal agencies to impose administrative penalties and damages for false claims and false statements if the damages sought are less than $150,000. NRC has established administrative procedures to implement the provisions of this act (see Part 13 of Title 10 of the *Code of Federal Regulations*). The act provides for a penalty of up to $6,000 for each false claim or false statement. Damages for false claims may be assessed at double the amount of the provable loss. Examples of PFCRA actions resulting in double damages include false claims of small entity status by licensees and fraudulent travel and permanent change of station claims by employees.

V. A FINAL MESSAGE

Avoid Fraud

- Exercise care in monitoring time and attendance reporting.
- Use internal controls to protect Government property.
- Review travel procedures and claims.
- Be wary of contractors who attempt to "buy" NRC business. Acceptance of even small favors by employees could result in an improper demand from a contractor.
- If you suspect that a contractor or any other person is offering you a bribe, notify the OIG immediately. Immediate reporting is important for the following reasons:
  - An attempt to bribe Government officials is itself a crime.
  - Contractors whose bribe is rejected will sometimes falsely report that the *employee* solicited a bribe.
  - Refusal to accept a bribe, in itself, has no deterrent effect.
- Protect account and PIN numbers associated with Government sponsored travel and small purchase credit cards.
- Review credit card statements closely to identify unauthorized or fraudulent transactions.
- Do not respond to e-mails requesting financial account information. This includes e-mails claiming to revalidate account information or settings.

Report Fraud

- OIG is the proper recipient of all complaints concerning fraud, graft, corruption, and diversion of NRC assets by NRC employees or contractors.

Call:	OIG Hotline 1-800-233-3497 9:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m. (EST) After hours, please leave a message
Submit:	On-Line Form Access by: logging onto www.nrc.gov Click on Inspector General Click on OIG Hotline phone symbol
or Write:	U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission Office of the Inspector General Hotline Program Mail Stop T-5 D28 11545 Rockville Pike Rockville, MD 20852-2738

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

OFFICE OF THE
INSPECTOR GENERAL

October 2, 2013

MEMORANDUM TO: Chairman Macfarlane

FROM: Hubert T. Bell */RA/*
Inspector General

SUBJECT: INSPECTOR GENERAL'S ASSESSMENT OF THE MOST SERIOUS MANAGEMENT AND PERFORMANCE CHALLENGES FACING NRC (OIG-14-A-01)

In accordance with the Reports Consolidation Act of 2000, I have updated what I consider to be the most serious management and performance challenges facing the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC). This report conveys the updated challenge list and provides a description of each challenge area and an assessment of agency actions to address these areas.

BACKGROUND AND OBJECTIVES

On January 24, 2000, Congress enacted the *Reports Consolidation Act of 2000*, requiring Federal agencies to provide financial and performance management information in a more meaningful and useful format for Congress, the President, and the public. The act requires the Inspector General (IG) of each Federal agency to annually summarize what he or she considers to be the most serious management and performance challenges facing the agency and to assess the agency's progress in addressing those challenges.

To accomplish this assessment, I considered the overall work of the Office of the Inspector General (OIG), the OIG staff's general knowledge of agency operations, and other relevant information to develop and update the list of management and performance challenges and assess the agency's progress in addressing these challenges. In addition, my staff sought input from NRC's Chairman, Commissioners,

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and management to obtain their views on what challenges the agency is facing and what efforts the agency has taken or are underway to address previously identified management and performance challenges.

RESULTS

The NRC's mission is to license and regulate the Nation's civilian use of byproduct, source, and special nuclear materials to ensure adequate protection of public health and safety, promote the common defense and security, and protect the environment. Like other Federal agencies, NRC faces management and performance challenges in carrying out its mission.

Congress left the determination and threshold of what constitutes a most serious management and performance challenge to the discretion of the IGs. I have defined serious management and performance challenges as *mission critical areas or programs that have the potential for a perennial weakness or vulnerability that, without substantial management attention, would seriously impact agency operations or strategic goals.*

Based on this definition, I have identified the following as the most serious management and performance challenges facing NRC as of October 1, 2013:

Most Serious Management and Performance Challenges Facing NRC as of October 1, 2013* (as identified by Inspector General)	
Challenge 1	*Management of regulatory processes to meet a changing environment in the oversight of nuclear materials.*
Challenge 2	*Management of NRC security programs.*
Challenge 3	*Management of regulatory processes to meet a changing environment in the oversight of nuclear facilities.*
Challenge 4	*Management of regulatory processes associated with high-level radioactive waste.*
Challenge 5	*Management of information technology.*
Challenge 6	*Administration of all aspects of financial management and procurement.*
Challenge 7	*Management of human capital.*
***The most serious management and performance challenges are not ranked in any order of importance.**	

Challenge 1. Management of regulatory processes to meet a changing environment in the oversight of nuclear materials

Overview

NRC is responsible for maintaining an established regulatory framework for the safe and secure use of nuclear materials; medical, industrial, and academic applications; and uranium recovery activities. NRC is authorized to grant licenses for the possession and use of radioactive materials and establish regulations to govern the possession and use of those materials. Agency regulations require that certain material licensees have extensive material control and accounting programs as a condition of their licenses. Other license applicants (including those requesting authorization to possess small quantities of special nuclear materials[1]) must develop and implement plans that demonstrate a commitment to accurately control and account for radioactive materials. Upon a State's request, NRC may enter into an agreement to relinquish its authority to the State to regulate certain radioactive materials (including low-level waste) and limited quantities of special nuclear material. The State must demonstrate that its regulatory program is adequate to protect public health and safety and compatible with NRC's program. The States that enter into an agreement assuming this regulatory authority from NRC are called Agreement States. Currently, there are 37 Agreement States.

Issues

- Ensure appropriate oversight of radioactive material. This includes the accurate tracking and control of byproduct material, especially those materials with the greatest potential to impact public health and safety.

- Ensure that radioactive material is adequately protected to prevent its use for malicious purposes.

- Ensure reliable accounting of special nuclear materials in the NRC and Department of Energy jointly managed Nuclear Materials Management and Safeguards System.

[1] Special nuclear material, as defined by Title 1 (Section 11. Definitions) of the Atomic Energy Act of 1954, is plutonium, uranium-233, or uranium enriched in the isotopes uranium-233 or uranium-235.

- Ensure the appropriate oversight of uranium recovery facilities. The Department of Energy is responsible for cleanup and remediation of these sites under an NRC general license.

- Ensure that Agreement State programs are adequate to protect public health and safety and the environment, and are compatible with NRC's program.

- Ensure the management and safe storage and disposal of low-level radioactive waste produced as a result of NRC-licensed activities.

- Improve implementation of the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA).

Assessment

During FY 2012, OIG audited NRC's oversight of industrial radiography and found areas where NRC could improve. In FY 2013, NRC continued work on addressing OIG's recommendations to improve its oversight of radiography. The agency is revising its inspection guidance pertaining to radiography—although the revision has been delayed several times.

During FY 2012, OIG conducted two audits concerning general licenses.

- In the first audit, OIG identified that general licensed devices (GLD) could contain dangerous radioactive sources even though persons with no radiation training or experience were allowed to operate the devices. In response to the OIG audit, during FY 2013, agency staff contacted NRC's general licensees that possessed devices with dangerous radioactive sources and encouraged those licensees to transfer their devices to specific licenses.

- In the second audit, OIG found that many general licensees are unaware of NRC's regulatory requirements. The Atomic Energy Act, through the Code of Federal Regulations, establishes regulatory requirements for general licensed devices. However, NRC relies on manufacturers to make general licensees aware of these requirements, thereby delegating some of its responsibilities. In response to the OIG audit, during FY 2013, NRC staff committed to develop a procedure to provide each new NRC general licensee with information that will clearly describe all applicable regulatory requirements.

Since FY 2003, OIG has been tracking NRC's progress regarding the reliable accounting of special nuclear materials. While the agency continues to make progress, it still needs to complete rulemaking on Part 74, Material Control and Accounting of Special Nuclear Material. The final rule and associated guidance are scheduled to be completed by November 12, 2013, and March 12, 2014, respectively.

During FY 2012, OIG audited NRC's oversight of uranium recovery facilities and found opportunities for improvement. In response to the OIG audit, during FY 2013, NRC staff completed actions to ensure compliance with memorandums of understanding it had with the Environmental Protection Agency and developed guidance for inspecting uranium recovery sites transferred to the Department of Energy for long-term surveillance.

Low-level radioactive waste is a byproduct of the country's use and production of certain radioactive material. NRC and the Agreement States regulate low-level waste disposal through a combination of regulatory requirements, licensing, and safety oversight. Currently, there are three low-level waste disposal sites that are regulated by Agreement States. However, these low-level waste disposal sites accept waste only from certain States or accept only limited types of low-level wastes. Low-level radioactive waste that cannot be disposed of at a commercially operated facility is stored "onsite" where it was produced. Onsite storage increases the risk of accident and subjects workers to an increased likelihood of an unplanned exposure. NRC regulates approximately 1,600 materials licensees whose State compact does not have a low-level radioactive waste disposal facility or is not affiliated in a compact.

Challenge 2. Management of NRC security programs

Overview

NRC must remain vigilant with regard to the security of its infrastructure and that of nuclear facilities and nuclear materials. NRC must continue to use robust, proactive measures to protect its infrastructure – the buildings, personnel, and information – from both internal and external threats. Moreover, as the nature of the threat continues to evolve, NRC faces challenges with protecting nuclear facilities and materials, the sharing of sensitive information, as well as emergency preparedness and incident response.

Issues

- Ensure that NRC maintains strong internal physical and information security programs to protect NRC assets (e.g., NRC headquarters and regional facilities, safeguards and classified information, and information systems).

- Ensure that NRC strengthens the cyber security inspection program to protect licensee-owned assets from compromise consistent with 10 CFR Part 73 requirements.

- Ensure effective nuclear power plant emergency preparedness oversight.

- Ensure that NRC maintains a strong physical security program to protect licensee-owned assets from attack.

- Ensure implementation of the November 21, 2012, Presidential Memorandum, "National Insider Threat Policy and Minimum Standards for Executive Branch Insider Threat Programs." Currently, the staff is working toward several options for presentation to the Commission that consist of the following: (1) NRC staff informing the Commission of the framework of the NRC's insider threat program as required by Executive Order 13587, "Structural Reforms to Improve the Security of Classified Networks and the Responsible Sharing and Safeguarding of Classified Information"; (2) a policy paper/basic implementation plan that will be a vote paper for Commission consideration, which will include policy questions including the allocation of resources and implications for bargaining unit employees; and (3) once the National Industrial Security Program Operating Manual is finalized, another paper to consider whether and to what degree licensees will be covered by the insider threat program.

- Ensure that NRC continually enhances its capabilities to deter and defeat external threats to its cyber infrastructure to thwart individuals and groups that deploy malicious malware and offensive cyber capabilities for the purpose of accessing NRC's domain for malevolent purposes. Additionally, spear phishing attacks have increased at NRC and present an infrastructure information assurance challenge for the agency.

Assessment

During FY 2013, OIG evaluated NRC's compliance with the Federal Information Systems Management Act of 2002 (FISMA).[2] NRC has continued to make improvements to its information technology security program and progress in implementing the recommendations from previous FISMA evaluations. Most notable is that the agency has continued to maintain authorizations to operate on its agency and contractor systems.[3]

During FY 2013, OIG was mandated to audit NRC's classified information security program's policies and procedures. OIG found a limited number of marking errors but no evidence of systemic misclassification. Yet, this audit did identify several areas where compliance with Federal Government standards could be improved. For example, OIG found that some NRC document classifiers had not received required training; trained classifiers are not issued documentation that training was received; required classification self-assessments would be enhanced by representative sampling; and NRC's policy guidance on classification is outdated. NRC is taking action on the recommendations to strengthen the classified information security program.

Additionally, OIG audited NRC's process for ensuring that NRC employees are complying with personnel reporting responsibilities for continued NRC access authorization eligibility. During this audit, OIG found that NRC had implemented a new system to track personnel security background investigations. This new system should lead to efficiencies in the work. Nevertheless, OIG found that employees are not complying with personnel reporting responsibilities for continued NRC access authorization eligibility. OIG found that NRC employees rarely self-report the occurrence of certain events or conduct that may bring into question their reliability and trustworthiness even though such reporting is a requirement for continued NRC access authorization. OIG made recommendations to strengthen the compliance process. NRC was in agreement with the recommendations and is taking corrective actions.

[2] FISMA is a United States Federal law enacted in 2002. The act requires each Federal agency to develop, document, and implement an agencywide program to provide information security for the information and information systems that support the operations and assets of the agency.
[3] An authorization to operate is a formal designation that authorizes operation of a business product and explicitly accepts the risk to agency operations.

Challenge 3. Management of regulatory processes to meet a changing environment in the oversight of nuclear facilities

Overview

NRC faces the challenge of maintaining its core regulatory programs while adapting to changes in its regulatory environment. NRC must address a highly variable interest in licensing and constructing new nuclear power plants to meet the Nation's increasing demands for energy production. As of May 2013, NRC had received 18 Combined License applications, 10 of which NRC was actively reviewing. Moreover, the agency is reviewing two standard design certifications and, for advanced reactors, expects to receive three design certification applications and one construction permit application through 2015.

While responding to the emerging demands associated with licensing and regulating new reactors, NRC must maintain focus and effectively carry out its current regulatory responsibilities, such as inspections of the current fleet of operating nuclear reactors and fuel cycle facilities. NRC intends to increase its safety focus on licensing and oversight activities through risk-informed and performance-based regulation.

Issues

New Facilities

- Implement the new Construction Inspection Program.
    - Risk-inform Construction Inspection Program activities to ensure the safe operation of newly constructed nuclear facilities.
    - Ensure that the NRC staff has the necessary knowledge and skill to successfully implement the program.
- As the search for new energy sources continues, NRC must ensure that the process for reviewing applications for new nuclear facilities focuses on safety and effectiveness.

- As the sources of manufactured reactor components become more globalized, NRC must ensure that its regulations and oversight activities appropriately address the challenges associated with licensees procuring components from suppliers located outside the United States.

Existing Fleet

- Ensure that NRC maintains the ability to effectively review licensee applications for license renewals and power uprates submitted by industry in response to the Nation's increasing demands for energy production.

- Ensure the most important operational issues remain the agency's top priority, and consistently apply responsive regulatory and review changes across the existing fleet of reactors.

- Establish and maintain effective, stable, and predictable regulatory programs or policies for all program areas.

Cross-Cutting Issues

- Systematically identify and develop — and consistently implement — internal controls to ensure effectiveness and efficiency of agency operations and resources.

- Identify and improve weak, informal, or unstructured processes to facilitate effective, efficient, and consistent staff activities.

- Improve the clarity, consistency, and comprehensiveness of guidance for NRC staff, such as the *Inspection Manual* and inter/intra-office guidance.

Assessment

OIG conducted audit followup activities in a number of significant issue areas, including oversight of licensees' vendors and reporting of nuclear power plant component defects, enforcement mechanisms, and new construction inspection. OIG auditors concurred with agency actions to close out recommendations in previously audited areas, including agency efforts to:

- Develop and implement a quality assurance process that ensures the accuracy and completion of enforcement data.

- Develop a vendor inspection program planning document that clearly articulates the program purpose and establishes metrics to evaluate program performance.

- Update inspection procedures to ensure NRC inspectors are evaluating licensee component defect reporting issues on a continual basis.

However, significant audit recommendations remain open regarding the clarity of licensee component defect reporting regulations and guidance, assessing NRC staff needs for new construction-related training, and developing a framework to manage the impact of change on key new reactor oversight programs.

Challenge 4. Management of regulatory processes associated with high-level radioactive waste

Overview

NRC regulates high-level radioactive waste generated from commercial nuclear power reactors. High-level radioactive waste is either spent (used) reactor fuel when it is accepted for disposal or waste materials remaining after spent fuel is reprocessed. Because of its highly radioactive fission products, high-level radioactive waste must be handled and stored with care. Since the only way radioactive waste finally becomes harmless is through decay, which for high-level waste can take hundreds of thousands of years, the waste must be stored and finally disposed of in a way that provides adequate protection of the public.

The United States has entered a period where the national policy for storing, reprocessing, and disposal of spent nuclear fuel is being reexamined. With the prospect of spent nuclear fuel being stored at reactor sites for the foreseeable future due to the uncertainty surrounding a permanent repository for high-level radioactive waste, along with recent judicial action, NRC is being called upon to reevaluate its management approaches to the issues associated with long-term high-level radioactive waste storage.

In 2010, NRC updated its Waste Confidence Decision—affirming that spent nuclear fuel could be safely stored onsite at nuclear power plants until a permanent waste repository is built. However, on June 8, 2012, the U.S. Court of Appeals for the District of Columbia Circuit ruled that NRC's waste-confidence decision had not adequately addressed all environmental effects and thus violated the National Environmental Policy Act.

On August 13, 2013, the U.S. Court of Appeals for the District of Columbia Circuit issued a decision. The court ordered NRC to "promptly continue with the legally mandated licensing process" for the Department of Energy's application for authorization to construct a geologic repository for high-level nuclear waste at Yucca Mountain, Nevada, "unless and until Congress authoritatively says otherwise or there are no appropriated funds remaining."

An independent spent fuel storage installation (ISFSI) is an NRC-licensed facility designed and constructed for the interim storage of spent nuclear fuel and other radioactive materials associated with the spent fuel. An ISFSI typically consists of a concrete storage pad, storage containers (casks), and any support facilities. As of March 2013, there were 69 licensed ISFSIs in the United States.

Issues

- Ensure safe and secure interim storage for increasing quantities of high-level radioactive waste for the foreseeable future until a permanent repository for high-level radioactive waste is operational.

- Address regulatory issues relative to a longer-than-anticipated time for interim storage of high-level waste.

- Maintain flexibility to address regulatory challenges related to the storage and transportation of spent nuclear fuel and high-level waste.

Assessment

Because the U.S. Court of Appeals for the District of Columbia Circuit found that NRC violated the National Environmental Policy Act in issuing its 2010 update to the Waste Confidence Decision and Temporary Storage Rule, the Commission suspended all licensing activities that rely on the Waste Confidence Decision and Rule. NRC created a Waste Confidence Directorate within the Office of Nuclear Materials Safety and Safeguards to oversee the drafting of a new Waste Confidence Environmental Impact Statement and Rule. The Commission has instructed the Directorate to issue the final environmental impact statement and rule by no later than September 2014.

In FY 2011, OIG audited the safety aspect of NRC's oversight of ISFSIs and identified areas where the agency could improve. During FY 2013, NRC staff revised its inspection manual establishing a minimum frequency for conducting routine ISFSI safety inspections.

Challenge 5. Management of information technology

Overview

NRC needs to continue upgrading and modernizing its information technology (IT) capabilities to meet its IT/information management strategic goals. These goals include ensuring that NRC staff have quick and easy access to information, providing IT solutions that are easy to use and increase agency program performance, and delivering excellent service.

Issues

- Maintain and enhance information technology activities to strengthen the productivity, efficiency, and effectiveness of agency programs and operations.
- Expand mobile computing – "work from anywhere" – options such as remote access from NRC-issued laptops, non-NRC computers, and hand-held devices including a "bring your own devices" pilot program to allow for the distributed work locations of NRC staff.
- Improve information retrieval with better categorization and organization, enterprise content management, and improved search capabilities.
- Enhance "work with anyone" capabilities to include virtual meeting and collaboration tools with internal and external stakeholders including licensees and the public.

Assessment

In December 2010, the U.S. Chief Information Officer promulgated the 25-Point Implementation Plan to Reform Federal Information Technology Management. The plan tasked NRC and other agencies with undertaking specific management reforms and policy changes. During FY 2013, OIG audited NRC's compliance and recommended that NRC could improve IT management. As a result, the agency has agreed to institutionalize current training for its IT acquisition staff, create short-term and long-terms plans for its data centers, and include all data centers in future consolidation efforts.

Also during FY 2013, OIG evaluated NRC's progress in implementing social media at NRC. The evaluation found that NRC has made significant progress and is compliant with Federal social media policies and regulations. However, consistent with the fact that NRC is still in its early stages with its social media program, there remain areas where the agency can enhance its efficiency and effectiveness. These areas include integrating social media into existing policies, training, and practices; implementing more social media specific security, training, and awareness safeguards; establishing a more prominent voice in the digital realm, and maximizing the potential of social media to enhance interaction with agency stakeholders and engage them in a dialogue on nuclear issues. The agency has implemented a number of recommendations such as soliciting input on a regular basis, making the authors more prominent in articles, and ensuring that information on how social media can be accessed by users is clearly defined and visible.

Challenge 6. Administration of all aspects of financial management and procurement

Overview

NRC faces significant challenges to efficiently, effectively, and economically manage its corporate resources within the parameters of its budget. In response to a challenging budget environment, NRC is pursuing strategies to target areas of inefficiency.

NRC must meet the requirements of several financial management statutes, including the Federal Managers' Financial Integrity Act and the Chief Financial Officers Act. These acts mandate NRC to establish controls that reasonably ensure that (1) obligations and costs comply with applicable law; (2) assets are safeguarded against waste, loss, unauthorized use, or misappropriation; and (3) revenues and expenditures are properly recorded and accounted for. These acts also encompass programmatic and administrative areas, as well as accounting and financial management.

NRC's procurement of goods and services is made with an aim to achieve the best value for the agency's dollars in a timely manner. Agency policy provides that these activities support the agency's mission; be planned, awarded, and administered efficiently and effectively; and be consistent with sound business practices and contracting principles. Agency efforts are currently focused on the goals of achieving (1) a 21st century acquisition program that uses state-of-the-art acquisition methodologies for acquisition planning, execution, management, and closeout, and (2) an acquisition program that fully integrates with the agencywide program and financial planning and budget execution.

Issues

Financial Management

- Respond to the current challenging budget environment.
- Improve the performance and functionality of the agency's core financial system.
- Improve the integration and functionality of all financially-related systems.

Procurement

- Implement a 21st century acquisition program that will interface with the agency's core financial management system.

Assessment

Financial Management

During FY 2013, NRC continued to demonstrate sound financial management practices. The *Audit of the NRC's Financial Statements for Fiscal Year 2012* resulted in an unqualified audit opinion. Moreover, other OIG audits demonstrated that NRC is in compliance with Federal laws and standards related to financial management.

The agency also continues its efforts to enhance controls over financial management and to reduce agency overhead costs. For example, NRC established a Transforming Assets into Business Solutions Task Force to analyze and assess NRC's business practices and develop a plan to reduce the duplication of efforts in corporate and office support areas. However, OIG audits identified additional opportunities for improvement in financial operations.

An FY 2013 audit on NRC's process for calculating license fees indicated that NRC has opportunities to improve management of fees. Specifically, the audit recommended that the agency develop an annual validation process to compare budget estimates to actual costs and make adjustments as needed to the fee calculation process.

During an FY 2013 audit of travel charge cards, OIG found that NRC has an opportunity to maximize NRC's rebates by using recommended Federal strategies. The audit recommended that the agency implement a policy to pay centrally billed travel card accounts daily or weekly and explore the possibility of using another agency's existing task order to obtain a higher rebate rate.

During FY 2013, OIG Investigations continued to see examples where NRC employees misused their Government travel charge cards, for example, by charging items not associated with official travel. While NRC has made efforts to address this area, continued efforts are needed to reduce and eradicate misuse.

Procurement

NRC continues to upgrade its procurement system to streamline the agency's contracting practices. During FY 2013, OIG monitored the agency's procurement activities through meetings with the Division of Contracts, Office of Administration. During FY 2014, these meetings will focus on the agency's Strategic Acquisition System scheduled to be implemented in the August – October 2013 time period.

During FY 2013, an OIG investigation concluded that a contractor improperly billed the agency and failed to provide adequate deliverables. A settlement was reached where the contractor agreed to pay damages plus investigative costs in the amount of $456,938. While NRC program office and contracting officials rejected deliverables and denied charges from the contractor, this OIG investigation highlights the need for continual vigilance in contract administration.

Challenge 7. Management of human capital

Overview

For several years, NRC experienced significant workforce growth resulting from increased interest in nuclear power. During FY 2013, NRC's workforce was approximately 4,000 staff positions. Going forward, NRC will need to support increasing mandates in a challenging budget environment. NRC must institutionalize an approach that focuses on its mission of protecting the public health and safety while remaining mindful of staff needs. To manage human capital effectively, while continuing to accomplish the agency's mission, NRC must continue to implement initiatives in the following areas:

- Reduce inefficiencies and overhead by centralizing and streamlining processes while maintaining or improving the level of service to agency offices.

- Space planning.

Issues

- Respond to a challenging budget environment.
- Adapt training and development programs to the changing needs of agency staff.
- Facilitate continuation of space consolidation efforts.
- Address knowledge management in light of the high number of senior experts and managers who are or will be eligible to retire.
- Enhance the environment for raising concerns.

Assessment

NRC, like many other Federal agencies, is dealing with the need to become more efficient in performing its mission. In response, NRC has developed a comprehensive human capital management system that is consistent with the agency's core values. The Office of the Chief Human Capital Officer (OCHCO) has implemented specific hiring controls in order to address the agency's projected shortfall in salaries and benefits. Additionally, OCHCO developed long- and short-term staffing plans focusing on mission-related work. These plans are effective tools for offices over the next several years as they balance grade structure, manage positions and achieve salary and benefit targets.

During audits and evaluations, OIG considers both budget information for NRC programs and training needs for staff and makes recommendations, as appropriate, for improvements in these areas. For example, in FY 2013, OIG conducted audits that discussed improvements needed in the training offered by the agency concerning NRC's (1) budget execution process and (2) travel charge card program.

NRC and the General Services Administration continue to work together to obtain approval for a consolidated housing plan for NRC headquarters that meets current standards for space utilization. After approval by the Office of Management and Budget, the plan will be presented to Congress. The final decision will rest with the House Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure and the Senate Committee on Environment and Public Works.

NRC continues to make progress on reconsolidation of its staff from headquarters interim buildings to the White Flint Campus' Two White Flint North and Three White Flint North buildings.

During FY 2013, OIG also reported on the agencywide safety culture and climate on the basis of an employee survey taken in September 2012.[4] When compared to previous surveys, agency staff rated 8 of 19 categories less favorable than in 2009. Some of these areas include the staff's comfort level in elevating concerns and raising differing opinions, staff development and management, agency image, and the impact of metrics on work quality. Regarding knowledge management, the survey identified that NRC has made improvements in this area but still has opportunities to improve. The survey also indicated that staff may be less comfortable raising concerns since the previous survey was conducted. NRC management has assembled a group consisting of agency staff from multiple offices to seek opportunities for improvement in these areas.

In FY 2013, OIG investigative activities highlighted various human capital issues. For example, OIG completed an investigation regarding concerns associated with NRC's "open door" policy and Differing Professional Opinion (DPO) program. Several interviewees told OIG that because there is a perception by NRC staff that filing a DPO leads to retaliation, many staff are unwilling to use the program. Additionally, OIG investigations completed work and reported instances of misuse of the Transit Subsidy Benefits Program and undocumented Government overtime and time and attendance.

CONCLUSION

The seven challenges contained in this report are distinct, yet are interdependent to accomplishing NRC's mission. For example, the challenge of managing human capital affects all other management and performance challenges.

The agency's continued progress in taking actions to address the challenges presented should facilitate achievement of the agency's mission and goals.

SCOPE AND METHODOLOGY

This report presents the IG's annual assessment of the most serious management and performance challenges facing the NRC. The challenges represent critical areas or difficult tasks that warrant high level management attention. To accomplish this work, the OIG focused on determining (1) current challenges, (2) the agency's efforts to address the challenges during FY 2013, and (3) planned agency efforts to address the challenges.

OIG reviewed and analyzed pertinent laws and authoritative guidance, agency documents, and OIG reports, and sought input from NRC officials concerning agency accomplishments relative to the challenge areas and suggestions they had for updating

[4] 2012 NRC Safety Culture and Climate Survey, OIG-13-A-15, March 29, 2013.

the challenges. Specifically, because challenges affect mission critical areas or programs that have the potential to impact agency operations or strategic goals, NRC Commission members, offices that report to the Commission, the Executive Director for Operations, and the Chief Financial Officer were afforded the opportunity to share any information and insights on this subject.

OIG staff conducted this assessment from May through August 2013 at NRC headquarters.