

October 30, 2015

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

FROM: William M. Dean, Director */RA by Jennifer Uhle for*
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

SUBJECT: UPDATES ON ACTIONS TO ADDRESS THE OFFICE OF THE
INSPECTOR GENERAL'S AUDIT RECOMMENDATIONS ON
THE U.S. NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION'S
OVERSIGHT OF SPENT FUEL POOLS (OIG-15-A-06)

The staff received the Office of the Inspector General (OIG) report OIG-15-A-06, "Audit of NRC's Oversight of Spent Fuel Pools," dated February 10, 2015. The staff responded in a memorandum, dated March 18, 2015, that described specific actions the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission would take to address the four recommendations in OIG-15-A-06. The enclosure to this memorandum provides a status update on the staff actions.

Enclosure:
October 2015 Update on Actions to Address
OIG SFP Audit Recommendations
(OIG-15-A-06)

cc: Chairman Burns
Commissioner Svinicki
Commissioner Ostendorff
Commissioner Baran
SECY

CONTACT: Scott T. Krepel, NRR/DSS
(301) 302-0399

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Recommendation 1

Planned Action: Upon a satisfactory conclusion to the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission's (NRC's) review of NEI 12-16, incorporate this detailed guidance into NRC internal processes through a regulatory guide and through revisions to NUREG-0800, "Standard Review Plan for the Review of Safety Analysis Reports for Nuclear Power Plants."

October 2015 status update: The staff is currently reviewing Revision 1 of the Nuclear Energy Institute's report, NEI 12-16, "Guidance for Performing Criticality Analyses of Fuel Storage at Light Water Reactor Power Plants," (Agencywide Documents Access and Management System (ADAMS) Accession No. ML14112A516), which will form the basis of the regulatory guide. The NRC staff has submitted requests for additional information to the Nuclear Energy Institute and will continue the review once it receives responses.

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Recommendation 2

Planned Action: Develop and implement discrete inspection procedure(s) that describe how NRC inspectors should monitor spent fuel pool safety at operating reactors.

October 2015 status update: On September 4, 2015, the staff issued for regional comment draft Inspection Procedure (IP) 60715, "Spent Fuel Safety at Operating Reactors," (ADAMS Accession No. ML15247A049). This inspection procedure will enhance spent fuel pool oversight by supplementing, when necessary, current inspection guidance in IP-71111.20, "Refueling and Other Outage Activities." The regional comments have been received and incorporated. Staff anticipates issuing the inspection procedure in its final form by the end of October 2015.

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Recommendation 3

Planned Action: Use the generic letter process to collect information and determine what regulatory actions are necessary to ensure compliance with NRC requirements regarding monitoring of neutron-absorbing materials in spent fuel pools, then initiate the regulatory actions.

October 2015 status update: The staff has completed most of the internal NRC review and approval processes for the generic letter requesting information on monitoring of neutron-absorbing materials in spent fuel pools. The staff is currently following the Office of

Management and Budget's (OMB's) routine process for new information collections in order to obtain an OMB clearance number. The staff intends to issue the generic letter soon after the agency receives an OMB clearance number.

CONTACT: Scott T. Krepel, NRR/DSS
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Recommendation 4

Planned Action: Continue to manage the revision of Inspection Manual Chapter (IMC) 2561, "Decommissioning Power Reactor Inspection Program," and implement inspection procedures (including Inspection Procedure (IP) 60801, "Spent Fuel Pool Safety at Permanently Shut Down Reactors") as planned and scheduled. When the revision of IMC 2561 is complete, the agency will begin the approval process.

October 2015 status update: The staff has completed approximately 80 percent of the review and update of the approximately 40 inspection procedures associated with IMC 2561. The revision of IP 60801 is being coordinated with the Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation, Division of Inspection and Regional Support to ensure that the new revision is aligned with the new IP being generated as part of the action for Recommendation 2. The Office of Nuclear Material Safety and Safeguards plans to issue the core IPs by the end of December 2015, with issuance of the revised IMC 2561 to follow in March 2016.

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