

October 23, 2015

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

FROM: Michael R. Johnson */RA/*  
Deputy Executive Director for Reactor  
and Preparedness Programs  
Office of the Executive Director for Operations

SUBJECT: AUDIT OF NRC'S OVERSIGHT OF LOW-LEVEL RADIOACTIVE  
WASTE (OIG-15-A-20)

The purpose of this memorandum is to provide a status of the staff's actions in response to the two recommendations contained in OIG-15-A-20, "Audit of the NRC's Oversight of Low-Level Radioactive Waste."

Recommendation 1:

Define the term "long-term storage" in all future U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) documents. Alternatively, eliminate the term.

Response:

Agree. The staff will eliminate the term "long-term storage" from its inspection procedures. If the staff uses the phrase "long-term storage" in the future, the staff will include a definition to clarify the meaning, specifically how long long-term storage should last. The Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation (NRR) is currently updating the Reactor Oversight Inspection Procedures and will, as part of this update, eliminate the term from the specific NRR procedure (IP 71124.08) identified in the report.

Targeted Completion Date: December 31, 2015  
Point of Contact (POC): Undine Shoop

CONTACT: Undine Shoop, NRR/DRA  
(301) 415-2063

Recommendation 2:

Develop a mechanism to inform the regional offices of updates to transportation regulations, for example through refresher training, monthly calls, or webinars.

Response:

Agree. Senior staff from NRR, Office of Nuclear Material Safety and Safeguards (NMSS), and each regional office will develop the mechanisms to share updated information between the headquarters program and regional offices. This information will specifically include future revisions to U.S. Department of Transportation regulations, as well as more general updates on changes to applicable Federal regulations and NRC policies. In the interim, in order to share this information, the NMSS transportation experts will participate in the monthly teleconferences that NRR conducts with its regional radiation protection counterparts.

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cc: Chairman Burns  
Commissioner Svinicki  
Commissioner Ostendorff  
Commissioner Baran  
SECY

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