

December 9, 2015

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

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

SUBJECT: STATUS OF RECOMMENDATION FROM THE OFFICE OF THE
INSPECTOR GENERAL REPORT (OIG-15-A-05), "AUDIT OF NRC'S
TASK INTERFACE AGREEMENT PROCESS"

This memorandum provides the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission staff's closure of the recommendation from the Office of the Inspector General's (OIG's) audit OIG-15-A-05, "Audit of NRC's Task Interface Agreement [(TIA)] Process," dated November 25, 2014.

Recommendation: Develop sufficient internal controls to ensure TIA performance measures for timeliness are met.

Status: Agency action completed. Office Instruction No. COM-106, "Control of Task Interface Agreements," (ADAMS Accession No. ML15219A174) has been updated to include revised performance measures that are commensurate with safety significance and level of effort. Moreover, management controls have been added and internal communications have been strengthened both horizontally and vertically. Task interface agreements, together with other licensing tasks, are part of the effort to improve performance and timeliness. They are tracked and monitored during a series of workload management meetings to stay abreast of issues and to ensure that strategies implemented remain effective and are achieving desired outcomes. These meetings occur semimonthly with the Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation (NRR) deputy directors as well as monthly with the office director. Moreover, division management directly involved in a particular TIA receive regular, detailed briefings on status, challenges, and resolution paths. Task interface agreements are also discussed biweekly with headquarters and regional division directors. As each TIA response reaches completion, the NRR executive team is engaged in an assessment of notable safety, environmental, and security concerns. The staff is using a customer feedback form to facilitate the continual improvement of the TIA process.

On November 20, 2015, NRR provided the OIG with a status update via e-mail stating that COM-106, revision 5, was approved by NRR management.

cc: Michael R. Johnson, DEDR

CONTACT: Lynnea E. Wilkins, NRR/DPR
301-415-1377

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