



OFFICE OF THE
INSPECTOR GENERAL

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

January 9, 2017

MEMORANDUM TO: Victor M. McCree
Executive Director for Operations

Maureen E. Wylie
Chief Financial Officer

FROM: Dr. Brett M. Baker */RA/*
Assistant Inspector General for Audits

SUBJECT: STATUS OF RECOMMENDATIONS: AUDIT OF NRC'S
REACTOR BUSINESS LINES' COMPLIANCE WITH
AGENCY NON-FINANCIAL INTERNAL CONTROL
GUIDANCE (OIG-15-A-16)

REFERENCE: CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER AND EXECUTIVE
DIRECTOR FOR OPERATIONS MEMORANDUM DATED
DECEMBER 23, 2016

Attached is the Office of the Inspector General's analysis and status of recommendations 1 and 3 as discussed in the agency's response dated December 23, 2016. Based on this response, recommendations 1 and 3 remain resolved and recommendation 2 was previously closed. Please provide an updated status of the resolved recommendations by March 3, 2017.

If you have questions or concerns, please call me at (301) 415-5915 or Paul Rades, Team Leader, at (301) 415-6228.

Attachment: As stated

cc: R. Lewis, OEDO
H. Rasouli, OEDO
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Audit Report

AUDIT OF NRC'S REACTOR BUSINESS LINES' COMPLIANCE WITH AGENCY NON-FINANCIAL INTERNAL CONTROL GUIDANCE

OIG-15-A-16

Status of Recommendations

Recommendation 1: Implement NRC Management Directive and Handbook 4.4, *Internal Control*, non-financial internal control requirements.

Agency Response
Dated December 23, 2016:

Agree. Staff has updated the template for the business line Internal Control Plans to better align with the current Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) Management Directive (MD) and Handbook 4.4. The Office of Management and Budget (OMB) issued the revised Circular A-123, *Management's Responsibility for Enterprise Risk Management and Internal Control*, in mid-July and the staff is working on updating the MD 4.4 and Handbook. In the meantime, staff has issued the *Interim Guidance for Programmatic Internal Control*. The Interim Guidance is limited to superseding MD 4.4 Handbook, Section III, *Assessment of Internal Control over Program Operations (Non-Financial)* and Section V, *Assurance Certifications, Chairman's Statement, and Internal Requirements*. The revision to MD 4.4 will address the updates to A-123.

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Milestones:

- Issue *Interim Guidance for Programmatic Internal Control* – Completed (ML16155A251)
- Update the Business Line Internal Control Plans – Completed (New Template ML16155A232)
- OMB to issue the revised Circular A-123–Completed (Issued July 15, 2016 OMB A-123)
- Update MD 4.4 and Handbook – March 2018

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Status of Recommendations

Recommendation 1 (cont.):

OIG Analysis: The actions described above meet the intent of this recommendation. OIG will close this recommendation upon reviewing the updated versions of MD 4.4 and Handbook and verifying that these documents incorporate appropriate guidance for non-financial internal control.

Status: Resolved.

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Status of Recommendations

Recommendation 3: Develop internal control training and guidance to include mandatory standalone courses for managers and staff, and incorporate internal control responsibilities in the NRC formal developmental programs.

Agency Response
Dated December 23, 2016:

Agree. On March 30, 2016, the Chief Financial Officer (CFO) issued a Yellow Announcement on the importance of internal control and enterprise risk management. The CFO also recorded a video message to the agency on March 25, 2016, regarding the importance of internal control and the agency's compliance with the Federal internal control requirements. The video is currently available on the Internal Control and Planning Branch (ICPB) SharePoint site (CFO Internal Control Video link). Regarding the mandatory standalone training course on internal control, it was made available in iLearn on October 20, 2016, and a Yellow Announcement was issued the same day. In addition, speakers from OMB and the Government Accountability Office (GAO) presented at the NRC to the executive leadership on October 27, 2016, on the topics of internal control, enterprise risk management, and GAO's Standards for Internal Control in the Federal Government (Green Book). A video of the OMB and GAO speakers was made and in the process of being closed captioned. It is anticipated to be completed and incorporated into the various NRC leadership programs in January 2017.

Milestones:

- Issue a Yellow Announcement on the importance of internal control and risk management – Completed (YA-16-0035)
- Obtain approval from the NRC Human Capital Council to designate a standalone course on internal control as one-time mandatory training for all staff, managers, and contractors – Completed – August 2, 2016

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Status of Recommendations

Recommendation 3 (cont.)

- Update and launch the course in iLearn with Yellow Announcement announcing its availability along with a video message from the CFO – Completed October 20, 2016 (ML16272A307).
- Work with OEDO and the Office of the Chief Human Capital Officer to bring speakers from the GAO and OMB to discuss internal control, enterprise risk management, and GAO's Green Book – Completed October 27, 2016
- OMB to issue the revised Circular A-123 – (Issued July 15, 2016 OMB A-123)
- Incorporate a video of the GAO and OMB speakers into the NRC Supervisor Development Program, Nuclear Safety Professional Development Program, Leadership Potential Program, and Senior Executive Service Candidate Development Program – January 2017.

OIG Analysis:

The actions described above meet the intent of this recommendation. OIG will close this recommendation after verifying that the appropriate training video has been incorporated into NRC's formal developmental programs.

Status:

Resolved.