



**Defense Nuclear Facilities  
Safety Board**

Washington, DC 20004-2901

**Office of the  
Inspector General**

April 22, 2019

MEMORANDUM TO: Glenn Sklar  
General Manager

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

SUBJECT: STATUS OF RECOMMENDATIONS: AUDIT OF DNFSB'S  
IMPLEMENTATION OF ITS GOVERNING LEGISLATION  
(DNFSB-18-A-05)

REFERENCE: GENERAL MANAGER, DEFENSE NUCLEAR FACILITIES  
SAFETY BOARD, CORRESPONDENCE DATED  
FEBRUARY 28, 2019 AND APRIL 16, 2019

Attached is the Office of the Inspector General's (OIG) analysis and status of recommendations as discussed in the Defense Nuclear Facilities Safety Board's (DNFSB) responses dated February 28, 2019 and April 16, 2019. Based on these responses, recommendation 1 is closed and recommendation 2 remains open and resolved. Please provide an updated status of recommendation 2 by November 15, 2019.

If you have any questions or concerns, please call me at (301) 415-5915 or Jaclyn Storch, Team Leader, at (301) 415-2877.

Attachment: As stated

cc: R. Howard, OGM

## Audit Report

### AUDIT OF DNFSB'S IMPLEMENTATION OF ITS GOVERNING LEGISLATION

#### DNFSB-18-A-05

#### Status of Recommendations

Recommendation 1: Develop and implement agency guidance for issuing reporting requirements.

Agency Response Dated  
February 18, 2019:

The Board has issued Policy Statement-7, *Policy Statement on Communication and Disposition of Safety Items*, dated May 22, 2018. Policy Statement-7 calls for potential safety items to be communicated to the Board and processed to allow for the Board's determination of safety items. The process is to also provide the Board the recommended course of action for consideration by the Board. A recommended course of action may include use of a reporting requirement to DOE.

As a major part of implementing Policy Statement-7, on September 28, 2018, the Technical Director issued Technical Director's Standing Order 18-04, *Technical Staff Reviews and Potential Safety Items*. Standing Order 18-04 gives direction consistent with PS-7 to improve the efficiency and effectiveness in providing the Board timely, high-quality information and reports that include the recommended course of action.

Policy Statement-7 defines "Safety Issue" as a Safety Item for which the Board requires additional information to assess whether it could challenge adequate protection of public health and safety. Therefore, Section 5.H of Standing Order 18-04 states that if the Review Team recommends requesting additional information from DOE, the Board communication proposed by the staff should include a reporting requirement. This is the key guidance regarding issuing reporting requirements. Standing Order 18-04 Attachments 1, 2 and 3, provide additional guidance on staff actions to take for Safety Issues (that result in reporting requirements being issued) following such a determination by the Board.

**Audit Report**

**AUDIT OF DNFSB'S IMPLEMENTATION OF ITS GOVERNING LEGISLATION**

**DNFSB-18-A-05**

**Status of Recommendations**

Recommendation 1 cont'd

OIG Analysis:

OIG has reviewed Policy Statement-7, *Policy Statement on Communication and Disposition of Safety Items*. Additionally, OIG has review the Technical Director's Standing Order 18-04, *Technical Staff Reviews and Potential Safety Items*.

These documents provide sufficient agency guidance on issuance of reporting requirements. Therefore, this recommendation is considered closed.

**Status:**

Closed.

## Audit Report

### AUDIT OF DNFSB'S IMPLEMENTATION OF ITS GOVERNING LEGISLATION

#### DNFSB-18-A-05

#### Status of Recommendations

Recommendation 2: Develop and implement a plan of action to address the issues of (1) low employee morale and (2) Board collegiality as documented in the FEVS Surveys, LMI report, and Towers Watson Report.

Agency Response Dated  
April 16, 2019:

The Board has held a series of three public meetings since the issuance of this recommendation that included discussion of how to address this recommendation, and similar issues identified in the National Academy of Public Administration (NAPA) DNFSB Organizational Assessment. An additional public meeting to finalize a plan of action is scheduled for April 23, 2019. Additionally, the Board will be contracting with NAPA to support the agency's strategic planning efforts and employee engagement activities. We anticipate a contract award within two weeks.

OIG Analysis:

The proposed action meets the intent of the recommendation. This recommendation will be closed when OIG receives the plan of action and verifies it addresses the issues of low morale as well as the Board collegiality.

**Status:**

Open: Resolved.