



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

January 11, 2021

MEMORANDUM TO: Ho. K. Nieh, Director
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

FROM: Christopher G. Miller, Director */RA/*
Division of Reactor Oversight
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

SUBJECT: COVID-19 PUBLIC HEALTH EMERGENCY LESSONS LEARNED
AND BEST PRACTICES REPORT – FOCUS ON THE REACTOR
OVERSIGHT PROCESS

The Nuclear Regulatory Commission's (NRC's) Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation (NRR) Division of Reactor Oversight established a multidisciplinary team to evaluate lessons learned and best practices from the implementation of the Reactor Oversight Process (ROP) during the initial phases of the Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19) public health emergency. The team was comprised of NRR and Office of Nuclear Security and Incident Response staff and inspectors from all four NRC regional offices.

The team has prepared a publicly available report entitled "Initial Report on Challenges, Lessons Learned and Best Practices from the 2020 COVID-19 Public Health Emergency – Focus on Regulatory Oversight of Operating Nuclear Reactors" (Agencywide Documents Access and Management System (ADAMS) Accession No. ML20308A389).

The report is based primarily on data from a 24-question survey that was sent to all NRC staff and management involved in the oversight of operating nuclear plants in the U.S. The team received and evaluated 248 survey responses. In addition, several near- and long-term recommendations were developed for consideration as the NRC continues to implement the ROP during the COVID-19 public health emergency and for future emergencies that require the staff to perform extensive telework. The recommendations also address how the NRC might prepare for remote oversight in the future for normal, non-emergency conditions.

This report and its recommendations will be shared with NRR's COVID-19 Coordination Team.

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SUBJECT: COVID-19 PUBLIC HEALTH EMERGENCY LESSONS LEARNED AND BEST PRACTICES REPORT – FOCUS ON THE REACTOR OVERSIGHT PROCESS DATED JANUARY 11, 2021

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***via e-mail NRR-106**

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