

ISSUE 3: INSPECTION PROGRAM REVIEW FOR SPENT FUEL STORAGE AND TRANSPORTATION

BACKGROUND

On December 6, 2010, the Commission issued “Staff Requirements Memorandum (SRM) – COMSECY-10-0007 – Project Plan for Regulatory Program Review to Support Extended Storage and Transportation of Spent Nuclear Fuel.” In the SRM, the Commission specifically approved the staff advancing the regulatory process improvement review to identify near-term efficiency and effectiveness enhancements to the licensing and inspection programs.

ISSUE DESCRIPTION

The NRC staff is reviewing the inspection program for storage and transportation activities conducted under the requirements of 10 CFR Parts 71 and 72 to increase efficiency and effectiveness enhancements.

CONSIDERATIONS

The NRC staff is reviewing the NRC Inspection Manual Chapter 2690, “Inspection Program for Dry Storage of Spent Reactor Fuel at Independent Spent Fuel Storage Installations and for 10 CFR Part 71 Transportation Packagings” (ML092730246) and associated inspection procedures and guidance documents to identify possible efficiency and effectiveness enhancements. Inspections apply primarily to fabricators, certificate holders, and licensees conducting storage and transportation activities. The staff is considering the following potential storage and transportation inspection program efficiency and effectiveness enhancements

1. Revise the storage and transportation Inspection Manual Chapter and inspection procedures to define the frequency of routine inspections, identify inspection requirements and acceptance criteria, incorporate inspection checklists as appropriate, and provide for a uniform approach to documenting inspection results.
2. Develop a storage and transportation database containing licensing and inspection information, technical and quality attributes requiring verification during inspections, and inspection results for tracking, trending, analysis, and future actions.
3. Conduct storage and transportation inspection process reviews to identify potential efficiency and effectiveness enhancements.