

March 15, 2006

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

FROM: Jack R. Strosnider, Director **/RA/**
Office of Nuclear Material Safety
and Safeguards

SUBJECT: STATUS OF RECOMMENDATIONS: AUDIT OF THE NUCLEAR
REGULATORY COMMISSION'S DECOMMISSIONING PROGRAM
(OIG-05-A-17)

In response to your December 23, 2005, memorandum titled *Status of Recommendations: Audit of Nuclear Regulatory Commission's Decommissioning Program*, below is the status of our response to the two recommendations for the Office of Nuclear Material Safety and Safeguards.

Recommendation 3: Bring closure to the following outstanding *Program Evaluation* recommendation – "Coordinate and review information from Headquarters and Regions for existing decommissioning sites to monitor progress, consistency, and efficiency of resolving common policy and technical issues."

Recommendation 4: Bring closure to the following outstanding *Program Evaluation* recommendation – "Coordinate and review information with currently operating licensed sites to identify and resolve conditions or events that could complicate future decommissioning."

Status

The December 23, 2005, Office of the Inspector General (OIG) analysis concluded that reissuing the Decommissioning Board Charter, to include the new coordination and review activities identified in Recommendations 3 and 4, would resolve these two Recommendations, and that the OIG would close these recommendations when the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission incorporated the procedures into the Operations Manual. On February 27, 2006, the Division of Waste Management and Environmental Protection Instructions/Procedures, Revision 0 (also referred to as the Operations Manual), was issued to the staff (Implementation memo in ML060580040 and Instructions/Procedures in ML060600118). Procedure 2.5 in the Instructions/Procedures provides the revised Charter of the Decommissioning Board, which includes the new coordination and review activities identified in OIG Recommendations 3 and 4.

In addition, on December 28, 2005, the Office of the Chief Financial Officer (OCFO) provided the OIG with the status for responding to Recommendation 1 by developing a revised Management Directive 4.7. We understand from OCFO that the status of this activity has not changed. Any future OIG inquiries concerning Recommendation 1 should be directed to OCFO.

CONTACT: Robert L. Johnson, DWMEP/NMSS
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