

July 13, 2012

ALL AGREEMENT STATES

NRC NOTIFICATION OF ISSUANCE OF OFFICE OF INSPECTOR GENERAL AUDIT REPORTS RELATED TO NRC'S OVERSIGHT OF INDUSTRIAL RADIOGRAPHY (OIG-12-A-15) & NRC'S ISSUANCE OF GENERAL LICENSES (GLs) (OIG-12-A-14). (FSME-12-063)

Purpose: This letter is intended to inform the Agreement States of the Office of the Inspector General (OIG) of the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) findings and recommendations related to NRC oversight of industrial radiography and issuance of general licenses .

Background: On June 28, 2012, the OIG issued audit reports related to the NRC's Oversight of Industrial Radiography (OIG-12-A-15) and NRC's Issuance of General Licenses (GLs) (OIG-12-A-14) the above referenced audit reports. These audit reports can be found on NRC's public website at <http://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/doc-collections/insp-gen/2012/oig-12-a-15.pdf> (Radiography) and <http://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/doc-collections/insp-gen/2012/oig-12-a-14.pdf> (GLs).

Discussion: NRC's regulatory requirements for industrial radiography are provided in 10 Code of Federal Regulations (CFR), Part 34 and can be found on the NRC's public website at (<http://www.nrc.gov/materials/miau/industrial-uses/rad-toolkit.html>). The audit established that generally, NRC's oversight of industrial radiography is effective, and the NRC has taken steps to improve its oversight by updating some guidance for radiography and stressing the importance of the safety culture during radiography inspections. However, the report identified few areas requiring improvement.

General licensed devices containing byproduct materials are issued pursuant to 10 CFR Parts 31 and 32. GL related details can be found on the NRC's public website at <http://www.nrc.gov/materials/miau/general-use.html>. OIG-audit related to GLs objective was to determine if NRC issues GLs for only inherently safe nuclear materials. The OIG made four recommendations related to the non-performance of fixed gauge shutters and more specifically fixed gauges containing byproduct International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) Category 1, 2 or 3 sources.

No action or response on part of the Agreements States is requested or required. The Agreement States may choose to adopt and address the OIG recommendations included in the referenced audit reports. You may wish to review these audit reports, as FSME staff is planning to brief the participants of the next Organization of Agreement States (OAS)/Conference of Radiation Controls Program Directors (CRCPD) teleconference which is scheduled for July 19, 2012.

If you have any questions regarding this communication, please contact me at (301) 415-3340 or my staff named below.

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