

November 09, 2016

MEMORANDUM TO: Steven E. Zane  
Acting Assistant Inspector General for Audits  
Office of the Inspector General

FROM: William M. Dean, Director /RA/  
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

SUBJECT: UPDATES ON ACTIONS TO ADDRESS THE OFFICE OF THE  
INSPECTOR GENERAL'S AUDIT RECOMMENDATIONS ON  
THE U.S. NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION'S  
OVERSIGHT OF SPENT FUEL POOLS (OIG-15-A-06)

The staff received the Office of the Inspector General (OIG) report OIG-15-A-06, "Audit of NRC's Oversight of Spent Fuel Pools," dated February 10, 2015. The staff responded in a memorandum dated March 18, 2015 (Agencywide Documents Access and Management System (ADAMS) Accession No. ML15056A651) that described specific actions the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission would take to address the four recommendations in OIG-15-A-06. The enclosure to this memorandum provides a status update on the staff's actions to address Recommendation 1 and Recommendation 3. The staff closed out Recommendations 2 and 4 in an update memorandum dated March 24, 2016 (ADAMS Accession No. ML16062A077).

Enclosure:  
November 2016 Update on Actions to Address  
OIG SFP Audit Recommendations  
(OIG-15-A-06)

cc: Chairman Burns  
Commissioner Svinicki  
Commissioner Baran  
SECY

CONTACT: Scott T. Krepel, NRR/DSS  
301-302-0399

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301-302-03999

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NRR-106

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| DATE   | 10/24/2016   | 10/09/2016    |              |                  |

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**NOVEMBER 2016 UPDATE ON ACTIONS TO ADDRESS**  
**OFFICE OF THE INSPECTOR GENERAL SPENT FUEL POOL AUDIT**  
**RECOMMENDATIONS (OIG-15-A-06)**

**Recommendation 1**

**Planned Action:**

Upon a satisfactory conclusion to the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission's (NRC's) review of Nuclear Energy Institute (NEI) 12-16, incorporate this detailed guidance into NRC internal processes through a Regulatory Guide (RG) and through revisions to NUREG-0800, "Standard Review Plan for the Review of Safety Analysis Reports for Nuclear Power Plants."

**November 2016 Status Update:**

The staff is currently reviewing a draft of Revision 2 of the NEI's report, NEI 12-16, "Guidance for Performing Criticality Analyses of Fuel Storage at Light Water Reactor Power Plants," which will form the basis of the RG. The staff scheduled meetings to finish discussions on several issues. Agreement is expected on the final version of NEI 12-16, Revision 2 by the end of the month. In addition, the staff has begun the draft RG process in anticipation of this final revision to NEI 12-16, which will support completion of a draft RG by summer 2017. The agency expects to approve a final RG in early 2018.

CONTACT: Amrit D. Patel, NRR/DSS  
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**Recommendation 3**

**Planned Action:**

Use the Generic Letter (GL) process to collect information and determine what regulatory actions are necessary to ensure compliance with NRC requirements regarding monitoring of neutron-absorbing materials in Spent Fuel Pools (SFPs), then initiate the regulatory actions.

**November 2016 status update:**

On April 7, 2016, the agency issued the GL requesting information on monitoring of neutron-absorbing materials in SFPs (Accession No. ML16097A169). The deadline for licensees to submit their responses to the GL was November 3, 2016, and the NRC staff is currently starting their evaluation of licensee responses. The staff expects to complete the evaluation of all response's, closeout of the GL for all licensees, and initiation of any subsequent regulatory actions by the end of 2017.

CONTACT: Scott T. Krepel, NRR/DSS  
301-302-0399

**ENCLOSURE**