



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

February 21, 2018

MEMORANDUM TO: Dr. Brett M. Baker  
Assistant Inspector General for Audits  
Office of the Inspector General

FROM: Brian E. Holian, Acting 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 describes specific actions the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission will 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:  
February 2018 Update on Actions to Address  
OIG SFP Audit Recommendations  
(OIG-15-A-06)

cc: Chairman Svinicki  
Commissioner Baran  
Commissioner Burns  
SECY

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

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GENERAL'S AUDIT RECOMMENDATIONS ON THE U.S. NUCLEAR  
REGULATORY COMMISSION'S OVERSIGHT OF SPENT FUEL POOLS  
(OIG-15-A-06) Dated February 21, 2018

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**ADAMS Accession No.:** ML18032A321

\*via e-mail

NRR-106

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<b>DATE</b>	02/1/2018	02/1/2018	01/30/2018
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<b>DATE</b>	02/1/2018	02/8/2018	02/21/2018

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**FEBRUARY 2018 UPDATE ON ACTIONS TO ADDRESS**  
**THE OFFICE OF THE INSPECTOR GENERAL'S 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) review of Nuclear Energy Institute report (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."

**February 2018 Status Update:**

NEI 12-16, "Guidance for Performing Criticality Analyses of Fuel Storage at Light Water Reactor Power Plants," references an Electric Power Research Institute (EPRI) methodology to determine the bias and uncertainty for the simulated depletion of the fuel. During a telephone call on January 25, 2018, EPRI indicated that their staff expects to complete their quality assurance work in March 2018. When this work is complete, NEI 12-16 can be finalized, and the NRC staff will complete the draft RG endorsing NEI 12-16. Given industry's schedule, NRC staff is planning to issue the draft RG for public comment in late 2018 and publish the final RG in mid-2019.

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**Recommendation 3**

**Planned Action:**

Use the generic letter (GL) process to collect information and determine which regulatory actions are necessary to ensure compliance with NRC requirements regarding the monitoring of neutron-absorbing materials in spent fuel pools and then initiate the appropriate regulatory actions.

**February 2018 status update:**

On April 7, 2016, the agency issued the (GL) requesting information on monitoring of neutron-absorbing materials in spent fuel pools (ADAMS Accession No. ML16097A169). All licensees have submitted responses to the GL. The NRC staff has completed its preliminary evaluation of licensee responses and closed out the GL for 28 sites (51 units). The staff is currently processing additional closeout letters, as well as waiting for a number of responses to requests for additional information necessary to close out the remaining licensee responses. The staff expects to complete closeout of the GL for all licensees and assess any subsequent appropriate regulatory actions by September 2018.

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Enclosure