



# **Closure of Generic Letter 2015-01: Treatment of Natural Phenomena Hazards at Fuel Cycle Facilities**

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## Background

- Fukushima Dai-ichi event in 2011.
- Information Notice 2011-08.  
(ADAMS Accession No. ML110830824).
- Temporary Instruction (TI) 2600/015.  
(ADAMS Accession No. ML12286A284).
- Inspections identified potential generic issue.
- Unresolved items were issued.
- Generic Letter (GL) 2015-01 issued on June 22, 2015  
(ADAMS Accession No. ML14328A029).
- Temporary Instruction 2600/016 to independently  
verify implementation of licensees responses  
(ADAMS Accession No. ML15317A506).

## Background (Cont.)

- GL-2015-01 Purpose
  - Request information to verify compliance with regulations regarding natural phenomena hazards (NPH).
  - Verify that integrated safety analyses (ISAs) address the impacts of natural phenomena events.
- Provisions of 10 CFR 70.62(c)(1) require that:
  - Each licensee shall conduct and maintain an ISA.
  - ISA identifies potential accident sequences caused by events internal to the facility and credible external events, including natural phenomena.

## Closure of GL 2015-01

- Evaluation of licensee responses
  - Conducted significant interactions with stakeholders.
  - Issued request for supplemental information.
  - Issued Technical Evaluation Reports (TERs).
- TI 2600/016
  - Inspections independently verified compliance with applicable regulatory requirements and license conditions regarding the treatment of NPH as described in the licensees responses and respective ISAs.
- Issued closure letter to each licensee

## Closure of GL 2015-01

- Examples of safety improvements achieved through this effort
  - Updates to ISA documentation in order to accurately reflect design and safety information for NPH.
  - Adoption of measures in safety programs, like a Configuration Management Program, to carefully evaluate the impacts of facility and design changes on the NPH safety assumptions and items relied on for safety.
  - One licensee implemented significant facility modifications for seismic and missile protection.
  - Modifications involving piping and equipment supports to improve resiliency against seismic hazards.

## Closure of GL 2015-01

- Additional regulatory activities as a result of this effort:
  - Development of Information Notice to inform licensees of recent issues and inspection findings regarding programs and procedures for determining and implementing management measures for isolation controls.
  - The staff is in the process of evaluating guidance on seismic hazards. The results of the evaluation will be used to inform the decision to issue or update NRC guidance.



## Conclusion

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- GL-2015-01 was an effective mechanism to provide NRC staff the basis for concluding that licensees are in compliance with applicable regulatory requirements related to NPH.
- Closure of GL-2015-01 is an example of a major regulatory effort that yielded significant programmatic accomplishments for the NRC's Fuel Facilities Business Line.