



PROJECT AIM STATUS UPDATE

October 1 – December 30, 2019

In the June 8, 2015, staff requirements memorandum for SECY-15-0015, "Project Aim 2020 Report and Recommendations," the Commission directed Project Aim to complete 19 tasks to address the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission's (NRC) need to improve efficiency and agility, as well as to right-size the agency, while retaining employees with the appropriate skills to accomplish its mission and streamline processes.

The staff continues to implement several tasks related to Project Aim. The most notable accomplishments for the period of October through December 2019 are discussed below.

Task 5. Common Prioritization and Re-baselining

Task 5 involved the integrated prioritization and re-baselining of 150 agency work activities to be shed, de-prioritized, or performed with fewer resources. The main deliverable for this task was provided to the Commission in SECY-16-0009, "Recommendations Resulting from the Integrated Prioritization and Re-Baselining of Agency Activities." The agency has now completed all 150 specific re-baselining activities.

Task 5 also involved providing the Commission with known changes in workload and longer-term efficiencies. This product was provided to the Commission on March 18, 2016, in SECY-16-0035, "Additional Re-Baselining Products." The staff continues to make progress on the remaining longer-term efficiencies and closed one longer-term efficiency as discussed below.

1. Reduce Office Space in Three White Flint North (3WFN)

On October 1, 2019, the NRC released floors eight and nine, and half of floor four, in 3WFN to the General Services Administration (GSA) for occupation by the National Institutes of Health. The release of space will save the agency \$4.5 million in annual rent and related costs.

2. Reduce Office Space in the Regions

The goal of this efficiency is to achieve significant savings per year paid in rent through the end of the agency's lease in Region II and III offices by reducing and backfilling regional office space based on regional reductions planned for fiscal year 2020.

The staff notified GSA of its intent to release space in the Region III office in April 2018 and the space was vacated effective October 1, 2019. The NRC vacated a floor in RII in June 2019, however NRC will not receive rent savings until GSA places a backfill tenant into the space. GSA and NRC have been collaborating on identifying a backfill tenant since 2018, however, it has been unsuccessful to date. Additional savings may be realized through reductions to office space in Regions I and IV. Region I and GSA are in the early planning

stages of a lease procurement that will significantly reduce space utilization in Region I. The agency plans to move Region I to a new location (in the same geographical area) utilizing an open space build out, that is approximately one-half the size and cost of the current footprint by April 2022. The agency also plans to release a full floor in Region IV effective in May 2021.

Task 14. Evaluate Consolidation of Regional Corporate Support Functions

In Task 14, the staff completed an evaluation of the corporate support functions in the Division of Resource Management and Administration (DRMA) in each NRC region and identified process efficiencies that will yield savings through standardization or centralization of specific support functions over time. The deliverable completing this task was provided to the Commission through a Commissioners' Assistants Note on June 6, 2016.

Though completed, the work on Project Aim Task 14 inspired a broader, follow-on effort to standardize and centralize mission support activities performed by DRMA and Program Management, Policy Development, and Analysis divisions in program offices and regions across the agency. On May 11, 2017, the mission support standardization and centralization working group provided an agencywide implementation plan for 28 projects to centralize and standardize financial management, human resource, information technology/information management, and administrative functions. During this period, the staff closed two projects, Project 15 – Space Management through implementation of the space reductions and Project 25 – Streamline and Enhance IT/IM Budget Formulation and Execution Processes through development and implementation of agencywide IT/IM budget formulation and execution processes that has been implemented by the four regions in their DRMAs.