



UNITED STATES  
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION  
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September 22, 2020

MEMORANDUM TO: Ho K. Nieh, Director  
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

John W. Lubinski, Director  
Office of Nuclear Material Safety and Safeguards

FROM: Raymond V. Furstenau, Director */RA/*  
Office of Nuclear Regulatory Research

SUBJECT: CLOSURE OF GENERIC ISSUE GI-204, "FLOODING OF  
NUCLEAR SITES DUE TO UPSTREAM DAM FAILURE"

The purpose of this memorandum is to inform you that Generic Issue (GI) 204, "Flooding of Nuclear Sites Due to Upstream Dam Failure," is closed. This is in response to your memorandum to me recommending closure of GI-204 dated September 15, 2020 (Agencywide Document Access and Management System (ADAMS) Accession No. ML20230A216). Closure of GI-204 is in accordance with U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) Management Directive (MD) 6.4 "Generic Issues Program" (ADAMS ML18073A162). The MD states that a GI is closed when "A generic issue for which all agency actions associated with the GI are complete, including implementation and verification activities by the regulatory office."

GI-204 was initiated in February 2012 to evaluate the potential safety implications for flooding of nuclear power plant sites due to upstream dam failures. No formal program assessment was performed. The issue was transferred directly to the responsible program office (the Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation [NRR]) for resolution in conjunction with parallel activities in response to the Near-Term Task Force (NTTF) recommendations to address flooding at operating reactors including flooding from postulated upstream dam failures. The NRC and licensees have completed all the risk-informed re-evaluations of the flooding hazards, including upstream dam failures, for operating power reactor plants in response to the lessons-learned from the accident at Fukushima Dai-ichi. In addition, staff from the Office of Nuclear Material Safety and Safeguards (NMSS) and NRR completed an analysis of the applicability of these lessons-learned to facilities other than operating power reactors. The associated facilities included decommissioning reactors with spent fuel stored in spent fuel pools (SFP), and Independent Spent Fuel Storage Installations (ISFSIs). With the completion of these actions, the full scope of GI-204 has been addressed by the NRC's actions in response to the lessons-learned from the accident at Fukushima Dai-ichi.

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The Office of Nuclear Regulatory Research (RES) agrees with NRR that the agency actions associated with GI-204 are now implemented and verified; hence, all significant safety issues have been adequately addressed by licensees, and GI-204 can be closed out. The NRC staff will report to Congress and the Commission that GI-204 has been closed out as part of the NRC's next semi-annual report to Congress.

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