



**U. S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission**

**Office of Inspector General**  
**FY 2010 Performance Report**

**November 2010**

# **NRC OIG PERFORMANCE REPORT**

## **Fiscal Year 2010**

### **INTRODUCTION**

Congress passed the Government Performance and Results Act (GPRA) in 1993 amid continued concerns of waste and inefficiency in Government management. GPRA forces Federal agencies to shift their focus away from traditional concerns such as staffing and activities to a single overriding issue: results. GPRA requires each agency to provide an annual performance report concerning actual performance in achieving the goals as stated in the agency's strategic plan and associated performance budget. Accomplishments are reported to the President and Congress on an annual basis. This report satisfies that requirement for the Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC), Office of the Inspector General (OIG). The NRC OIG updated its strategic plan that addressed new agency challenges and activities from FY 2008 through FY 2013 and is reflected in the FY 2010 performance report.

### **MISSION AND FUNCTIONS**

The Atomic Energy Act of 1954, as amended, and the Energy Reorganization Act of 1974, as amended, established NRC's basic regulatory mission. NRC's mission is to license and regulate the Nation's civilian use of byproduct, source and special nuclear materials to ensure adequate protection of public health and safety, promote the common defense and security, and protect the environment.

In accordance with the 1988 amendment to the IG Act of 1978, NRC's OIG was established as a statutory entity on April 15, 1989. The NRC OIG mission is to (1) independently and objectively conduct and supervise audits and investigations relating to NRC's programs and operations; (2) prevent and detect fraud, waste and abuse, and (3) promote economy, efficiency and effectiveness in NRC's programs and operations. In addition, OIG reviews existing and proposed regulations, legislation and directives and provides comments, as appropriate, regarding any significant concern.

The Inspector General also keeps the NRC Chairman and Members of Congress fully and currently informed about problems, makes recommendations to the agency for corrective actions, and monitors NRC's progress in implementing such actions. In fulfilling this mission, OIG assists the NRC to accomplish its mission by ensuring integrity, efficiency and accountability in the agency's programs.

### **PROGRAM ACTIVITIES**

OIG accomplishes its mission through the conduct of its audit, investigative, and management and operational support programs, as well as its legislative and regulatory review activities. To fulfill its audit mission, OIG conducts performance, financial, and contract audits. Performance audits focus on NRC administrative and program operations and evaluate the

effectiveness and efficiency with which managerial responsibilities are carried out and whether the programs achieve intended results. Financial audits attest to the reasonableness of NRC's financial statements and evaluate financial programs. Contract audits evaluate the cost of goods and services procured by NRC from commercial enterprises. In addition, the audit staff prepares special evaluation reports that present OIG perspectives or information on specific topics.

OIG's investigative staff carries out its mission by performing investigations relating to the integrity of NRC's programs and operations. Most OIG investigations focus on allegations of fraud, waste, and abuse and violations of law or misconduct by NRC employees and contractors. Additionally, OIG investigates allegations of irregularities or abuses in NRC programs and operations with special emphasis on those NRC activities that could adversely impact public health and safety. Periodically, investigative staff issue Event Inquiry Reports that document OIG's examination of events or agency regulatory actions and identify staff actions that may have contributed to the occurrence of an event. OIG also issues Special Inquiry Reports that document instances where inadequacies in NRC regulatory oversight may have resulted in a potential adverse impact on public health and safety.

Further, as part of OIG's mission to prevent and detect fraud, waste and abuse and to promote economy and efficiency, OIG conducts regulatory reviews of existing and proposed legislation, regulations, directives, and policy initiatives that affect NRC's programs and operations. Significant concerns are documented by the OIG in regulatory commentaries and provided to the agency. The intent of these reviews is to assist the agency in prospectively identifying and preventing potential problems.

The management and operational support program performs myriad activities. These include formulating and executing the OIG budget, administering an independent personnel program, providing information technology support, preparing the OIG's *Semiannual Report to Congress*, and managing OIG's training, and strategic planning activities. Executive management, legal counsel, and secretarial support activities are also included in this arena.

### **OIG's Strategic Goals, Strategies, and Actions**

The Office of the Inspector General carries out its mission through its audits and investigations programs. The FY 2008-2013 NRC-OIG Strategic Plan which features three goals guides the activities of its audits and investigations programs. The plan identifies the major challenges and risk areas facing the NRC and generally aligns with the agency's mission.

#### **OIG Strategic Goals**

- Strengthen NRC's efforts to protect public health and safety and the environment.
- Enhance NRC's efforts to increase security in response to an evolving threat environment.
- Increase the economy, efficiency, and effectiveness with which NRC manages and exercises stewardship over its resources.

The FY 2008-2013 NRC-OIG Strategic Plan presents the Nuclear Regulatory Commission Office of the Inspector General's priorities for the covered timeframe. It describes OIG's strategic direction to stakeholders, including the NRC Chairman, and the U.S. Congress. From this perspective, it presents OIG's results-based business case, explaining the return-on-investment. It also strengthens the OIG by providing a shared set of expectations regarding the goals OIG expects to achieve and the strategies that will be used to do so. OIG adjusts the plan as circumstances necessitate, uses it to develop its annual plan and performance budget, and holds managers and staff accountable for achieving the goals and outcomes.

The OIG's strategic plan also includes a number of supporting strategies and actions that describe planned accomplishments over the strategic planning period. Through associated annual planning activities, audit and investigative resources focus on assessing NRC's safety, security, and corporate management programs involving the major challenges and risk areas facing the NRC in the given budget year. The work of the OIG auditors and investigators support and complement each other in the pursuit of these objectives.

***Strategic Goal 1***

***Strengthen NRC's efforts to protect public health and safety and the environment.***

**Discussion:** NRC faces many safety challenges and an associated increased workload in the coming years related to nuclear reactor oversight, the regulation of nuclear materials, and the handling of nuclear waste. A significant concern for NRC is regulating the safe operation of the Nation's nuclear power plants through an established oversight process developed to verify that licensees identify and resolve safety issues before they adversely affect safe plant operation.

In addition, NRC must address an increasing number of license amendment requests to increase the power generating capacity of specific commercial reactors, license renewal requests to extend reactor operations beyond originally set expiration dates, and the introduction of new technology such as new and advanced reactor designs. In fulfilling its responsibilities to regulate nuclear materials, NRC must ensure that its regulatory activities regarding nuclear fuel cycle facilities and nuclear materials adequately protect public health and safety. NRC's regulatory activities concerning nuclear materials must protect against radiological sabotage and theft or diversion of these materials. Further, licensing of facilities (e.g., fuel fabrication) with new technologies poses additional challenges. The handling of nuclear waste includes both low-level and high-level waste. Low-level waste includes items that have become contaminated with radioactive materials or have become radioactive through exposure to neutron radiation. Low-level waste disposal occurs at commercially operated low-level waste disposal facilities that must be licensed by either NRC or Agreement States. However, no new disposal facilities have been built since the 1980s and unresolved issues continue regarding the closures of the disposal facilities.

High-level radioactive waste is primarily in the form of spent fuel discharged from commercial nuclear power reactors. In the high-level waste area, NRC faces significant issues involving the

potential licensing of the Yucca Mountain repository and certain aspects of the transportation of designated high-level waste from plants and facilities. Additional high-level waste issues include the interim storage of spent nuclear fuel both at and away from reactor sites, certification of storage and transport casks, and the oversight of the decommissioning of reactors and other nuclear sites. Further, DOE and the industry will need contingency plans if the repository is not licensed or not available as scheduled, and NRC will need to be able to respond to those plans.

**Strategy 1-1: Identify risk areas associated with NRC's Reactor Oversight Process and make recommendations, as warranted, for addressing them.**

Actions:

- a. Assess the adequacy of NRC's licensing and other oversight activities with regard to the safe operation of existing nuclear reactors.
- b. Assess the extent and effectiveness of NRC's emergency preparedness and incident response in relation to design basis and beyond design basis events.
- c. Assess NRC's implementation of its risk-informed approach to licensing and regulatory oversight.
- d. Assess the impact that an increase in license renewal and power uprate requests would have on the licensing process.
- e. Assess the effectiveness of the NRC regulatory process and related enforcement actions.
- f. Assess NRC's actions to identify and address the potential risks associated with aging facilities and with the introduction of new technology.
- g. Monitor NRC activities and gather stakeholder information to identify potential gaps in NRC regulatory oversight. Conduct, as appropriate, investigations and event inquiries when gaps are identified.
- h. Assess NRC's actions to identify and address the potential risks associated with the introduction of new technology into currently operating facilities.

**Strategy 1-2: Identify risk areas associated with NRC efforts to (1) prepare for and manage the review of applications for new power reactors, and (2) oversee construction of new power reactors to verify that they are built in conformance with approved designs and in compliance with approved construction standards and make recommendations, as warranted, for addressing the risks.**

Actions:

- a. Assess the extent to which NRC has examined the history of the licensing and construction of the first generation of plants and has developed a methodology to

- incorporate the lessons learned into the new licensing and construction process to include the design certification process.
- b. Assess the adequacy of NRC's application acceptance, review process, and approval standards.
  - c. Assess the adequacy of NRC's development of a construction inspection program.
  - d. Assess the adequacy of NRC's development of a rigorous quality assurance oversight program.
  - e. Assess the environmental review process associated with new site construction to ensure that NRC carries out its responsibilities.
  - f. Assess NRC's actions to address stakeholder's concerns over potential gaps in NRC oversight of new construction.
  - g. Assess NRC oversight of vendor material used in the construction of new reactor plants.
  - h. Assess NRC's integration of operating experience, generic safety issues and introduction of new technologies (e.g., digital products) into new reactor licensing.
  - i. As appropriate, conduct investigations and event inquiries when irregularities are identified.

**Strategy 1-3: Identify risk areas facing the materials programs and make recommendations, as warranted, for addressing them.**

Actions:

- a. Assess NRC's implementation of programs for controlling, accounting for, tracking, and inspecting nuclear materials.
- b. Assess the extent to which NRC has integrated into the materials program its emergency preparedness and incident response obligations associated with a potential significant nuclear event or incident.
- c. Assess NRC activities concerning the licensing, oversight, and aging effects of fuel cycle facilities.
- d. Assess NRC's handling of low-level waste issues, including security and disposal.
- e. Assess impact of the Agreement State program on the safety and security of materials and on NRC regulatory activities.

- f. Review NRC and licensee reports and engage interested stakeholders to identify issues of concern in NRC oversight of nuclear material held by NRC licensees.
- g. Assess NRC's oversight of nuclear waste issues associated with the de-commissioning and cleanup of nuclear reactor sites and other facilities.
- h. Through proactive initiatives, determine if material licensees have exceeded their license authorities and whether the NRC has failed to provide effective oversight.

**Strategy 1-4: Identify risk areas associated with low-level waste and the prospective licensing of the high-level waste repository and make recommendations, as warranted, for addressing them.**

Actions:

- a. Assess the key issues affecting the safe management of civilian low-level waste disposal, including the availability of low-level radioactive waste disposal sites.
- b. Assess NRC's regulatory activities involving the interim storage of high-level waste and spent fuel both at and away from reactor sites.
- c. Assess the adequacy of NRC's planned response if Yucca Mountain is not licensed or available as currently scheduled, including NRC's ability to respond to DOE and industry contingency plans.
- d. Assess issues involving the review of the Yucca Mountain repository application, and certain aspects of the transportation of designated high-level waste from plants and facilities.
- e. As appropriate, conduct investigations and event inquiries to determine NRC's efforts in addressing stakeholders concerns regarding low-level and high-level waste storage issues.

***Strategic Goal 2***

***Enhance NRC's efforts to increase security in response to an evolving threat environment.***

**Discussion:** NRC continues to face a number of challenges in ensuring the public is protected from improper use of nuclear materials and technology.

NRC, in concert with other agencies, must maintain a comprehensive assessment of threats and effectively integrate security considerations into its regulatory process. NRC must also ensure that security is adequately incorporated into the design and construction of new facilities.

In light of terrorist threats, natural disasters, and expanding populations around nuclear power plants, NRC plays a critical role in supporting emergency preparedness and incident response within the nuclear industry and State and local governments. NRC must protect its infrastructure

and ensure that its facilities, computers, people, and competencies are adequately protected against emerging threats while providing for continuity of operations.

NRC faces new challenges in supporting United States international interests in the safe and secure use of nuclear material and technology and in nuclear non-proliferation. These challenges include improving controls on the import and export of nuclear materials and equipment and NRC's successful exercising of its international oversight commitments such as helping foreign regulators boost their efforts for controlling radioactive sources.

**Strategy 2-1: Identify risk areas involved in effectively securing both operating and proposed nuclear power plants, nuclear fuel cycle facilities, and nuclear materials and make recommendations, as warranted, for addressing them.**

Actions:

- a. Assess the adequacy of NRC's oversight activities with regard to the security of nuclear materials and facilities.
- b. Assess the comprehensiveness of NRC's threat assessment and the process for keeping it up to date.
- c. Assess the adequacy of regulations to respond to an evolving threat environment and the extent to which NRC is making appropriate adjustments.
- d. Assess NRC's coordination with other agencies.
- e. Assess NRC's acquisition of resources and expertise to meet its security responsibilities.
- f. Monitor the development of NRC requirements to enhance nuclear security in response to an evolving threat environment.
- g. Where appropriate, conduct investigations and event inquiries designed to address NRC's efforts in providing oversight of licensee responsibilities.

**Strategy 2-2: Identify risks associated with Emergency Preparedness and make recommendations, as warranted, for addressing them.**

Actions:

- a. Assess NRC's management of Emergency Preparedness guidelines, regulations, and programs.
- b. Assess NRC's ability to provide internal technical expertise on Emergency Preparedness issues and perform regulatory reviews of Emergency Preparedness applications and amendments.



- c. Assess NRC's performance of technical reviews of Emergency Preparedness applications and amendments.
- d. Assess NRC's management of the coordination with Federal, State, and local governments and licensees.

**Strategy 2-3: Identify challenges involved in responding to incidents and make recommendations, as warranted, for addressing them.**

Actions:

- a. Assess NRC's efforts to prepare for responding to nuclear incidents including training, system reliability and interoperability, personnel availability, and response team organization and coordination.
- b. Assess the integration and coordination of NRC's efforts with other agencies at all levels.

**Strategy 2-4: Identify evolving threats to NRC security and make recommendations, as warranted, for addressing them.**

Actions:

- a. Assess how well NRC maintains a comprehensive threat assessment for its facilities and personnel.
- b. Assess the extent to which NRC effectively implements physical and information security controls and procedures.
- c. Assess how NRC balances security with public openness.
- d. Assess NRC's protection of the NRC IT infrastructure against internal and external threats.
- e. Assess NRC's continuity of operations planning in the event of an emergency.
- f. As appropriate, conduct investigations into internal and external cyber breaches of NRC's IT infrastructure.

**Strategy 2-5: Identify risks associated with nonproliferation of nuclear material and nuclear technology and make recommendations, as warranted, for addressing them.**

Actions:

- a. Assess NRC's management of controls on the import and export of nuclear materials and address nuclear technology transfer issues.
- b. Assess NRC's responsibilities linked to established statutes, international treaties,

conventions, and cooperative agreements.

- c. Through proactive initiatives and, if appropriate, reactive investigations, identify potential shortcomings in NRC's actions to provide oversight of nuclear materials importation and exportation programs.

***Strategic Goal 3***

***Increase the economy, efficiency, and effectiveness with which NRC manages and exercises stewardship over its resources.***

**Discussion:** NRC faces significant challenges to efficiently, effectively, and economically manage its resources. Although a number of organizational changes have been implemented in recent years, more changes will occur over the strategic timeframe.

Over the next few years, the agency will need to balance workloads and priorities to support new reactor licensing efforts. This will create tremendous pressure on all program management areas, including human resources management, information technology, and financial management.

In addition, NRC needs to continue to improve its management and control over financial and other resources. As required by statute, OIG will continue to evaluate financial management practices and work with NRC to identify and improve weaknesses. The agency also needs to upgrade its information technology capabilities to provide state-of-the-art tools to NRC staff.

**Strategy 3-1: Identify areas of corporate management risk within NRC and make recommendations, as warranted, for addressing them.**

Actions:

- a. Assess NRC's management of human capital.
- b. Assess NRC's financial management practices.
- c. Provide reasonable assurance that NRC's financial statements are presented fairly in all material aspects.
- d. Assess NRC's implementation of Governmentwide and agency information technology initiatives, including the security of agency technology and information.
- e. Assess NRC's management of other administrative functions (e.g., contracts, property, facilities).
- f. Examine allegations of misuse pertaining to NRC's corporate management resources to include personnel, procurement, financial, and information technology.

- g. Investigate instances of alleged misconduct associated with NRC corporate management resources and programs.
- h. Reduce instances of employee criminal and administrative misconduct through investigations or proactive initiatives.

## PERFORMANCE DATA

The following tables include the strategic goals, measures, and targets for FY 2008-FY 2013. They also provide actual performance data for FY 2006-FY 2010.

### PERFORMANCE MEASURES

<b>OIG Strategic Goal 1: Strengthen NRC's Efforts To Protect Public Health and Safety and the Environment</b>					
	<b>2006</b>	<b>2007</b>	<b>2008</b>	<b>2009</b>	<b>2010</b>
<b>Measure 1. Percent of OIG products/activities<sup>1</sup> undertaken to identify risk areas or management challenges<sup>2</sup> relating to the improvement of NRC's safety programs.</b>					
<b>Target</b>	80%	80%	80%	80%	85%
<b>Actual</b>	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%
<b>Measure 2. Percent of OIG products/activities that have a high impact<sup>3</sup> on improving NRC's safety program.</b>					
<b>Target</b>	70%	70%	70%	70%	85%
<b>Actual</b>	100%	100%	100%	88.9%	100%
<b>Measure 3. Number of audit recommendations agreed to by agency.<sup>4</sup></b>					
<b>Target</b>	90%	90%	90%	90%	92%
<b>Actual</b>	81% <sup>5</sup>	100%	93.3%	60% <sup>6</sup>	60% <sup>7</sup>
<b>Measure 4. Final agency action within 1 year on audit recommendations.<sup>8</sup></b>					
<b>Target</b>	50%	50%	50%	50%	70%
<b>Actual</b>	63%	36% <sup>9</sup>	47.4% <sup>10</sup>	66.7%	80%
<b>Measure 5. Agency action in response to investigative reports.</b>					
<b>Target</b>	90%	90%	90%	90%	95%
<b>Actual</b>	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%

<b>OIG Strategic Goal 2: Enhance NRC's Efforts To Increase Security in Response To an Evolving Threat Environment</b>					
	<b>2006</b>	<b>2007</b>	<b>2008</b>	<b>2009</b>	<b>2010</b>
<b>Measure 1. Percent of OIG products/activities undertaken to identify risk areas or management challenges relating to the improvement of NRC's security programs.</b>					
<b>Target</b>	85%	85%	85%	85%	90%
<b>Actual</b>	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%
<b>Measure 2. Percent of OIG products/activities that have a high impact on improving NRC's security program.</b>					
<b>Target</b>	70%	70%	70%	70%	75%
<b>Actual</b>	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%
<b>Measure 3. Number of audit recommendations agreed to by agency.<sup>11</sup></b>					
<b>Target</b>	90%	90%	90%	90%	92%
<b>Actual</b>	100%	100%	100%	81.8% <sup>12</sup>	96.6%
<b>Measure 4. Final agency action within 1 year on audit recommendations.<sup>13</sup></b>					
<b>Target</b>	65%	65%	65%	65%	70%
<b>Actual</b>	25% <sup>14</sup>	61% <sup>15</sup>	69.6%	40.0% <sup>16</sup>	80%
<b>Measure 5. Agency action in response to investigative reports.</b>					
<b>Target</b>	90%	90%	90%	90%	90%
<b>Actual</b>	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%

<b>OIG Strategic Goal 3: Improve the Economy, Efficiency, and Effectiveness With Which NRC Manages and Exercises Stewardship Over Its Resources</b>					
	<b>2006</b>	<b>2007</b>	<b>2008</b>	<b>2009</b>	<b>2010</b>
<b>Measure 1. Percent of OIG products/activities undertaken to identify risk areas or management challenges relating to the improvement of NRC's corporate management program.</b>					
<b>Target</b>	65%	65%	65%	65%	80%
<b>Actual</b>	99%	100%	100%	100%	100%
<b>Measure 2. Percent of OIG products/activities that have a high impact on improving NRC's corporate management program.</b>					
<b>Target</b>	70%	70%	70%	70%	85%
<b>Actual</b>	96%	100%	100%	92%	69.6% <sup>17</sup>
<b>Measure 3. Number of audit recommendations agreed to by agency.<sup>18</sup></b>					
<b>Target</b>	90%	90%	90%	90%	92%
<b>Actual</b>	100%	100%	100%	96%	100%
<b>Measure 4. Final agency action within 1 year on audit recommendations.<sup>19</sup></b>					
<b>Target</b>	65%	65%	65%	65%	70%
<b>Actual</b>	60% <sup>20</sup>	85%	44.4% <sup>21</sup>	53.8% <sup>22</sup>	92.9%
<b>Measure 5. Agency action in response to investigative reports.</b>					
<b>Target</b>	90%	90%	90%	90%	90%
<b>Actual</b>	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%
<b>Measure 6. Acceptance by NRC's Office of the General Counsel of OIG-referred Program Fraud and Civil Remedies Act cases.<sup>23</sup></b>					
<b>Target</b>	70%	70%	70%	70%	
<b>Actual</b>	100%	No Cases Referred	No Cases Referred	No Cases Referred	

## **FY 2010 BUDGET RESOURCES**

The following table depicts the relationship of the Inspector General program and associated FY 2010 budget resources to the OIG's strategic and general goals.

<b>Program Links to Strategic and General Goals (\$K)</b>	<b>OIG Strategic and General Goals</b>		
	<b>Advance NRC's Safety Efforts (\$K)</b>	<b>Enhance NRC's Security Efforts (\$K)</b>	<b>Improve NRC's Corporate Management (\$K)</b>
<b>FY 2010 Programs (\$10,860; 58 FTE)</b>			
<b>Audits (\$7,142; 37 FTE)</b>	<b>\$3,078 18.5 FTE</b>	<b>\$1,200 6.5 FTE</b>	<b>\$2,864 12.0 FTE</b>
<b>Investigations (\$3,718; 21 FTE)</b>	<b>\$1,452 8.0 FTE</b>	<b>\$622 3.5 FTE</b>	<b>\$1,644 9.5 FTE</b>

## **Verification and Validation of Measured Values and Performance**

OIG uses an automated management information system (MIS) to capture program performance data for the audits and investigations programs. The integrity of the MIS was thoroughly tested and validated prior to implementation. Reports generated by the system provide both detailed

information and summary data. Beginning with FY 2006, both the audits and investigations program statistics were fully integrated into the new system and used to compile OIG statistical performance data. All system data are deemed reliable.

### **CROSS-CUTTING FUNCTIONS WITH OTHER GOVERNMENT AGENCIES**

NRC OIG has cross-cutting functions with other law enforcement agencies. For example, OIG provides investigatory case referrals to the Department of Justice (DOJ). It also coordinates investigative activities with U.S. Attorneys' offices, as well as with other agencies as required.

### **PROGRAM EVALUATIONS**

An independent audit peer review performed in FY 2009 found OIG's audits program in compliance with government auditing standards. Independent quality assurance reviews were also undertaken in FY 2007 and FY 2008 which determined that the audits program was compliant with PCIE policies and standards. The FY 2010 quality assurance review is scheduled for the first quarter of FY 2011. In addition, an independent investigative peer review was conducted in FY 2010 of the OIG investigations program. The program was found to be in compliance with PCIE/ECIE quality standards and DOJ guidelines.

### **CONCLUSIONS**

NRC OIG successfully met its audit and investigative program goals for FY 2010. In fact, OIG exceeded 87 percent of its established goals. While there were some deviations from target levels, these deviations had no effect on the overall program effectiveness since one concerned the timeliness of agency's resolution on four audit recommendations and the other target level related to the high-impact on investigative activities. Program complexity can also have a major bearing on whether or not the agency takes final action on an audit recommendation within one year. In FY 2008, OIG reviewed all performance measures during the revision to its Strategic Plan to determine their relevancy in successfully accomplishing program effectiveness, and whether performance measures were set at appropriate target levels. Several performance measures were modified during this review with implementation in FY 2010. OIG will also ensure that its goals and work strategies continue to add value to the NRC in carrying out its important safety and security mission. In FY 2011, OIG will review and revise its Strategic Plan, where necessary, for the next 5 years.

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## ENDNOTES

1. OIG products are issued OIG reports. For the audit unit, these are audit reports and evaluations. For the investigative unit, these are investigations, Event Inquiries, and special inquiries. Activities are the OIG hotline or proactive investigative reports.
2. Congress left the determination and threshold of what constitutes a most serious challenge to the discretion of the Inspectors General. As a result, OIG applied the following definition: Serious management challenges are mission-critical areas or programs that have a potential for a perennial weakness or vulnerability that, without substantial management attention, would seriously impact agency operations or strategic goals.
3. High impact is the effect of an issued report or activity undertaken that results in: a) confirming risk areas or management challenges that caused the agency to take corrective action, b) real dollar savings or reduced regulatory burden, c) identifying significant wrongdoing by individuals that results in criminal or administrative action, d) clearing an individual wrongly accused, and e) identifying regulatory actions or oversight that may have contributed to the occurrence of a specific event or incident or resulted in a potential adverse impact on public health or safety.
4. Audit has refined the measure whereby agency agreement on recommendations is within 90 days.
5. Three (3) recommendations involving byproduct materials were initially not agreed to by the agency. Subsequently, the agency agreed to the recommendations and final action has been completed.
6. The agency required more than 90 days to review 5 of 6 recommendations on the Agreement State Program audit prior to resolution. Subsequently, the agency agreed to all of the recommendations. Three of the 5 recommendations were agreed to within 98 days.
7. The agency required more than 90 days to review 4 recommendations on the Quality Assurance Planning for New Reactors audit prior to resolution. Subsequently, all four recommendations have been closed or resolved.
8. Measure changed from final agency action within 1 year on audit recommendations to 2 years on audit recommendations starting in FY 2010.
9. Five (5) recommendations involving three (3) separate audit reports on byproduct materials licensing, Probabilistic Risk Assessment (PRA) and the National Source Tracking System took more than one year for the agency to implement. Final action on all recommendations related to byproduct materials and the National Source Tracking Systems are now complete, as are 2 of the

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3 recommendations for PRA. Agency action on the final PRA recommendation is scheduled to be complete by May 2010.

10. The agency is taking more than one year to complete final action on recommendations related to placing documents in the ADAMS public and non-public libraries. Final action on six (6) recommendations is complete and final agency action is expected by the end of December 2009 on the remaining recommendation.

11. Audit has refined the measure whereby agency agreement on recommendations is within 90 days.

12. The agency needed more than 90 days to review the recommendations on the National Source Tracking System audit. The agency agreed to all recommendations within 97 days.

13. Measure changed from final agency action within 1 year on audit recommendations to 2 years on audit recommendations starting in FY 2010.

14. The majority of these audit recommendations dealt with FISMA and a specific computer-based security program that required more than one year to complete final action. Final action is now complete on all recommendations and the report is closed.

15. Eleven (11) recommendations involving three (3) separate audit reports on baseline security, Nuclear Security and Incident Response (NSIR) and the Integrative Personnel Security System (IPPS) took more than one year for the agency to implement. Final action is now complete on all recommendations and the report is closed.

16. The agency is taking more than one year to complete final action on the FY 2008 FISMA audit recommendations. The agency agreed with all recommendations and action is underway to correct the identified deficiencies.

17. For Fy 2010, a more rigorous standard was applied for the impact of investigations in the corporate management arena.

18. Audit has refined the measure whereby agency agreement on recommendations is within 90 days.

19. Measure changed from final agency action within 1 year on audit recommendations to 2 years on audit recommendations starting in FY 2010.

20. Final action on recommendations in the Financial Statements audit took 16 months to complete and the report is closed.



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21. The agency is taking more than one year to complete final action on NRC's Technical Training Center audit recommendations. The agency agreed with all recommendations and final action has been completed on 10 of 11 recommendations.

22. The agency is taking more than one year to complete final action on the Training and Development audit recommendations. The agency agreed with all recommendations and final action has been completed on 5 of 17 recommendations.

23. Performance measure was determined to be ineffective since another NRC program office was primarily responsible for ensuring completion of action with minimal activity from year to year and will be removed starting in FY 2010.