

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

OFFICE OF THE INSPECTOR GENERAL

June 22, 2020

The Honorable Gerald E. Connolly Chairman Subcommittee on Government Operations 2157 Rayburn House Office Building Washington, DC 20515

Dear Chairman Connolly:

The Office of the Inspector General (OIG) at the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) has been closely monitoring the actions taken by the NRC and the Defense Nuclear Facilities Safety Board (DNFSB) as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic. We share your subcommittee's commitment to the health and safety of our federal workforce, and to ensuring that government facilities are reopened in a cautious and prudent manner.

In response to your request, we are immediately initiating audits at the NRC and the DNFSB to take a closer look at their plans and procedures for returning employees to federal offices. The objective of these audits will be to determine if their respective plans for returning employees to government facilities were prepared in accordance with government-wide guidance and agreed-upon best practices for safe, healthy, and effective office re-openings.

My office is committed to ensuring the integrity of NRC and DNFSB programs and operations, including the health, safety and welfare of their employees. Upon completion of these audits, the results will be sent directly to your subcommittee.

If you need additional information, please call me at (301) 415-5930 or Dr. Brett M. Baker, Assistant Inspector General for Audit, at (301) 415-5915.

Sincerely,

Robert J. Feitel Inspector General

cc: The Honorable Jody B. Hice, Ranking Member Subcommittee on Government Operations