

U. S. Department of Energy
Office of Inspector General



FY 2015 Performance Report
FYs 2016 & 2017 Performance Plan

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MESSAGE FROM THE ACTING INSPECTOR GENERAL

I am pleased to present the Department of Energy Office of Inspector General's combined FY 2015 Annual Performance Report and FYs 2016 and 2017 Annual Performance Plan. This report highlights our performance over the past year and establishes goals for future years.

During this past fiscal year, we focused a significant portion of our resources on completing reviews and conducting investigations that assisted the Department in identifying opportunities for cost savings, enhancing programmatic performance, and improving operational efficiencies. As a result of our efforts, we identified over \$281 million in questioned and unsupported costs and \$15 million in funds that could have been put to better use. Additionally, our investigations resulted in \$39 million in fines, settlements and recoveries. Our efforts continue to help the Department make its programs and operations more effective and efficient.

While monetary accomplishments are certainly important, we also completed a number of reviews in FY 2015 that cannot be quantified in terms of dollars saved, but have assisted in enhancing worker safety, improving physical and cyber security, and advancing Department program outcomes. For example, in our report entitled, *The Department of Energy's Management of High-Risk Excess Facilities*, we found that a definitive transfer schedule for 234 contaminated excess facilities awaiting deactivation and decommissioning activities had not been established; many contaminated excess facilities continue to deteriorate and pose increasing risks to mission, workers, the public, and the environment; and at least 140 additional excess contaminated facilities had been identified. Given budget and transfer timeline uncertainties identified during this review, as well as the risks posed to health, safety, and the environment, we made recommendations designed to assist the Department in addressing its universe of excess contaminated facilities.

I commend the efforts of my staff for their commitment in providing independent, accurate, timely and balanced information to the Department's management. I believe this information is vital in that it has enabled the Department to take action to significantly improve operations. In addition, our investigative efforts have helped to deter criminal activity and resulted in a number of individuals being prosecuted and held accountable for their fraudulent activities.



Rickey R. Hass
Acting Inspector General

AT A GLANCE: PERFORMANCE RESULTS FOR FY 2015

Our Vision

To be a highly efficient organization that promotes positive change.

Our Mission

To strengthen the integrity, economy, and efficiency of the Department's programs and operations.

The Office of Inspector General (OIG) continues to make positive contributions to the Department's mission-related priorities. Some highlights of our work in FY 2015 include:

Total Reports Issued:	68
Audit Reports	54
Inspection Reports	14
Funds Put to Better Use	\$15 million
Questioned and Unsupported Costs	\$281 million
Fines, Settlements, and Recoveries	\$39 million
Criminal Convictions	18
Suspensions and Debarments	51
Civil and Administrative Actions	71
Hotline Complaints and Inquiries	2,002

OVERVIEW

This report presents the goals, objectives, and measures for the OIG's FY 2015 actual performance. Included in this report are the Performance Plans for FYs 2016 and 2017 that contain the goals and measures to track our future performance.

Our Performance Goals:

- Provide independent, accurate, timely, and balanced information to the Department, Congress, and other key stakeholders in order to promote economy and efficiency in Department programs and operations.
- Work with the Department, prosecutors and others to hold recipients and overseers of Department funds accountable for actions that result in fraud, waste, and/or abuse.
- Build and maintain an efficient and effective organization that fulfills its mission and maintains a highly qualified diverse workforce.

OUR ORGANIZATION

The Office of Inspector General is headquartered in Washington, DC and has 12 field offices located throughout the country. The organization is responsible for conducting audits, inspections and investigations and for receiving and acting upon allegations reported through the OIG Hotline. The organization also has a corporate support function that addresses the administrative management of the organization.

AUDITS are conducted on Department programs and operations. Efforts are concentrated on providing reliable and credible financial and performance information and recommendations for improvements to senior management, Congress and the U.S. taxpayer. A risk-based process is used to identify areas for audit coverage based on known or emerging risks and the greatest vulnerabilities. This process ensures comprehensive coverage over Department organizations, programs and operations while meeting the Department's evolving needs. Audit resources are also directed toward meeting statutory audit responsibilities in the financial and information technology areas.

INSPECTIONS focus on allegations received from the OIG Hotline, special inquiries raised by Congress or senior Department officials, and performance issues. Efforts are concentrated on management reform within the Department by evaluating and providing recommendations to improve program performance. The Inspection function is designed to promptly address concerns and allegations received during the course of the year. Inspection priorities are based on the significance of the issue and the potential impact on Department programs and operations.

INVESTIGATIONS address alleged violations of law that impact Department programs, operations, facilities and personnel. Priority is given to investigations of suspected violations of criminal and civil statutes, as well as serious administrative misconduct. Investigations are also used to identify opportunities for improving the economy and efficiency of Department programs and operations by identifying recommendations for positive change. Investigators work closely with Department of Justice prosecutors and other Federal, State, and local law enforcement organizations.

THE HOTLINE facilitates the reporting and resolution of allegations of fraud, waste, abuse and mismanagement involving Department programs and activities. Allegations are received from Department employees, contractors and the general public. Upon receipt of a specific allegation, the OIG may open an investigation, audit, or inspection; refer the matter to Department management for appropriate review and action; or refer the allegation to another Federal agency.

COUNSEL TO THE INSPECTOR GENERAL provides legal advice to senior leadership, serves as the primary liaison to Congressional staff, and manages the Freedom of Information Act process.

Also within this office is the OIG Whistleblower Ombudsman who educates Department employees about prohibitions on retaliation for whistleblowing, as well as employees' rights and remedies if anyone retaliates against them for making a whistleblower disclosure.

MANAGEMENT AND ADMINISTRATION directs the development, coordination, and execution of overall OIG management and administrative policy and planning. This responsibility includes directing the OIG's strategic planning process, financial management activities, personnel management and security programs, administrative support services, and information technology programs.

EXTERNAL FACTORS CHALLENGING OUR ORGANIZATION

Various external factors impact the OIG's ability to meet its performance goals. The most significant factor is congressionally mandated work, which demands a relatively large portion of OIG resources. This mandated work includes, among other things, work required by the Government Performance and Results Modernization Act of 2010, the Federal Financial Management Improvement Act of 1996, the Federal Information Security Modernization Act of 2014, the Improper Payments Elimination and Recovery Act of 2010, the Whistleblower Protection Enhancement Act of 2012, and the Government Charge Card Abuse Prevention Act of 2012.

OUR MANAGEMENT CHALLENGES

We have identified inadequate audit and investigative coverage of management contractors as an OIG challenge. To address this, we increased staffing to authorized levels in FY 2013 and have maintained the increased staffing levels in FY 2015. However, while we have increased our coverage of contracts, grants and other procurements, it is still not optimal. Our limitation in this area can be linked to three primary causes:

- The Department's diverse and broad mission that continues to expand;
- The Department's significant operational management challenges; and
- OIG's full-time equivalent (FTE) ceiling is insufficient to meet operational needs.

The Department's mission to ensure security and prosperity by addressing energy, environmental and nuclear challenges is one of the broadest in the Federal Government. DOE's mission continues to expand as it takes on new guaranteed loan programs to promote renewable energy. In addition, the mission becomes more complex as the nation's nuclear stockpile continues to age. Finally, the Department is currently facing significant operational challenges as a result of duplicative functions that exist throughout the organization. These additional challenges create additional oversight responsibilities. However, the OIG FTE ceiling has remained at a constant level for nearly a decade. In order to meet the additional oversight responsibilities and maintain current operational levels, the OIG FTE ceiling needs to be increased. In the interim, we use a risk-based approach to focus our finite resources on those areas within DOE that have the greatest impact on the security and prosperity of the country. Despite our prioritization, we are not always able to provide optimal coverage of contracts, grants and other procurements.

MEASURING OUR PERFORMANCE

Our work is important to the Department's success in fulfilling its Strategic Plan. It is imperative that the OIG ensure its resources and activities cover the issues and concerns most critical to the Department. The OIG's *FY 2015 – FY 2019 Strategic Plan* identifies the goals and measures that we use to track our performance. Our performance goals help us assist the Department in identifying and taking corrective action to improve areas most vulnerable to waste, fraud, and mismanagement.

This *Annual Performance Report and Plan* does not provide historical data because we established new performance goals and measures in our *FY 2015 – FY 2019 Strategic Plan*. The following reflects the OIG's actual performance in FY 2015 and our targeted performance for FYs 2016 and 2017.

Goal 1

Provide independent, accurate, timely, and balanced information to the Department, Congress and other key stakeholders in order to promote economy and efficiency in Department programs and operations.

Goal Leader: Deputy Inspector General for Audits and Inspections

Performance Measures	FY 2015	FY 2016	FY 2017
1.1 Percentage of reports issued with recommendations/suggestions.	Target: 40%	Target: 70%	Target: 70%
	Actual: 81%		
1.2 Percentage of recommendations accepted.	Target: 85%	Target: 85%	Target: 85%
	Actual: 96%		
1.3 Percentage of final reports issued within 60 days of receipt of management comments.	Target: 80%	Target: 80%	Target: 80%
	Actual: 98%		

Goal 2

Work with the Department, prosecutors and others to hold recipients and overseers of Department funds accountable for actions that result in fraud, waste, and/or abuse.

Goal Leader: Deputy Inspector General for Investigations

Performance Measures	FY 2015	FY 2016	FY 2017
2.1 Number of fraud awareness briefings conducted to educate and inform Department employees, contractors, and fund recipients.	Target: 47	Target: 48	Target: 50
	Actual: 67		
2.2 Average number of days to issue an Investigative Report to Management.	Target: 44 days	Target: 43 days	Target: 43 days
	Actual: 32 days		
2.3 Percentage of cases presented for prosecutorial consideration that are accepted for further action.	Target: 76%	Target: 78%	Target: 77%
	Actual: 77%		
2.4 Average number of days by which hotline complaints are referred to responsible entities following a disposition decision.	Target: 16 days	Target: 15 days	Target: 15 days
	Actual: 7 days		

Goal 3

Build and maintain an efficient and effective organization that fulfills its mission and maintains a highly qualified diverse workforce.

Goal Leader: Assistant Inspector General for Management and Administration

Performance Measures	FY 2015	FY 2016	FY 2017
3.1 Percentage of required employee performance management system actions conducted within prescribed timeframes.	Target: 91%	Target: 91.5%	Target: 92%
	Actual: 99.6%		
3.2 Percentage of Individual Development Plans established within prescribed timeframes.	Target: 93%	Target: 93.5%	Target: 94%
	Actual: 99.3%		
3.3 Percentage of employees completing mandatory training within prescribed timeframes.	Target: 98%	Target: 98%	Target: 98%
	Actual: 99.7%		
3.4 A positive return for each tax dollar invested in OIG activities.	Target: \$3.15	Target: \$3.75	Target: \$4.00
	Actual: \$8.29		

APPENDIX A

Audit Work Plan for FY 2016

Eastern Audits Division

- Management of the Storage of High Flux Isotope Reactor Fuel
- Follow-up Audit on Nuclear Material Availability
- National Nuclear Security Administration's Management of Thorium
- Follow-up Audit on Management of the Storage Capacity of the High Level Waste Tanks at the Savannah River Site
- Status of the Environmental Management Disposal Facility
- Process Technology Development Projects at the Y-12 National Security Complex
- Audit of the Spallation Neutron Source
- Salt Waste Processing Facility Construction Project Contract at the Savannah River Site
- The Department of Energy's Analytical Samples Program
- Efforts to Remediate Mercury Contamination at Oak Ridge
- Surplus Plutonium Disposition at the Savannah River Site
- Decontamination and Decommissioning Activities at the Separations Process Research Unit
- Audit of Rework Costs at the Mixed Oxide Fuel Fabrication Facility
- Issues Management within the Office of Science
- The Department of Energy's Oversight of Contractor Industrial Hygiene Programs
- Nuclear Materials Information Program
- Management of the American Centrifuge Project
- Follow-up Audit on Depleted Uranium Operations at the Y-12 National Security Complex
- The Department of Energy's Management of National Asset Nuclear Materials
- Safety Management at Selected Department Accelerator Facilities
- The Department of Energy's Non-Weapons Plutonium Production
- Savannah River Nuclear Solutions Subcontracting Practices
- The Department of Energy's Management of the National Environmental Policy Act Compliance Process
- Depleted Uranium Hexafluoride (DUF 6) Conversion Operations
- D-Area Coal Ash Cleanup at the Savannah River Site
- Management of the Safety Incident Process
- Management of Green Building Sustainability Initiatives
- Small Business Subcontracting at Oak Ridge National Laboratory

Central Audits Division

- Audit of the Department's Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy's Wind Program
- Vehicle Technologies at the Department of Energy's National Laboratories
- Follow-up of Bonneville Power Administration's Critical Asset Protection
- Transmission Asset Management at Western Area Power Administration
- Laboratory for Laser Energetics
- Follow-up Audit of Cooperative Research and Development Agreements at Selected Sites
- Permitting Processes at the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission
- Office of Indian Energy Policy and Programs
- Office of Electricity Delivery and Energy Reliability's Smart Grid Research and Development
- Nuclear Safety at Naval Reactors Facilities
- Maintenance and Testing of Security Systems
- Leased Space
- Selected Loan Programs Office Projects

Western Audits Division

- Waste Isolation Pilot Plant Recovery
- Audit of National Nuclear Security Administration's Management of the W88 Alteration 370 Program
- The Department of Energy's Management of the Suspension of the Waste Treatment and Immobilization Plant's High-Level Waste Vitrification and Pretreatment Facilities
- National Nuclear Security Administration's Management of the Plutonium Facility Upgrades at Los Alamos National Laboratory
- Follow-up Audit on K Basin Sludge Treatment Project at the Hanford Site
- National Nuclear Security Administration's Management of the Radiological Security Program
- Integrated Safety at the Waste Treatment and Immobilization Plant
- Implementation of the Quality Assurance Program at the Nevada National Security Site
- Department of Energy Quality Assurance: Commercial Grade Dedication of Items Relied on for Safety
- Follow-up Audit of National Nuclear Security Administration's Enhanced Surveillance Program
- Transient Reactor Test Facility (TREAT) Restart Project
- Los Alamos National Laboratory Accelerated Vault Work-off Project
- Integrated Safety at SLAC and Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory
- Follow-up Audit of the W76 Refurbishment Program

Western Audits Division (con't)

- Audit of Subcontract Administration at Los Alamos National Laboratory and Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory
- National Nuclear Security Administration Energy Savings Performance Contracts
- Used Nuclear Fuel Disposition
- National Nuclear Security Administration's Component Manufacturing Development
- National Nuclear Security Administration's Emergency Operations Centers
- Explosive Safety at the Pantex Plant
- Utilization of the Environmental Molecular Science Laboratory
- Plutonium Sustainment and Pit Production
- Sandia National Laboratories Silicon Fabrication Revitalization Initiative
- National Nuclear Security Administration's Management of the Tonopah Test Range
- National Nuclear Security Administration's Nuclear Smuggling Detection and Deterrence Program
- W80 Life Extension Program
- Management of Warehouse Space at the Hanford Site
- Sandia National Laboratories Subcontract Administration

Technology Audits

- The Department of Energy's Implementation of the Digital Accountability and Transparency Act of 2014
- Management of the National Renewable Energy Laboratory's Cybersecurity Program
- Management of the Pantex Plant's Cybersecurity Program
- Security Over the Department of Energy's Industrial Control Systems
- Follow-up on the Management of Bonneville Power Administration's Cybersecurity Program
- Follow-up on the Management of the Department of Energy's Websites
- The Department of Energy's Network Monitoring Capabilities
- Implementation of Selected Department of Energy Information Systems
- The Department of Energy's Implementation of Multi-Factor Authentication Capabilities
- The Department of Energy's Unclassified Cybersecurity Program – 2016
- The Federal Energy Regulatory Commission's Unclassified Cybersecurity Program – 2016
- Information Technology Management Letter for Fiscal Year 2015

Statement of Costs Incurred and Claimed (SCIC)

- Jefferson Science Associates - Thomas Jefferson National Accelerator Facility 2011-2014
- Fermi Research Alliance - Fermi Laboratory 2012-2014
- Iowa State University - Ames National Laboratory 2013-2014
- Stanford – SLAC 2014-2015
- Honeywell - Kansas City Plant 2012-2013
- NSTec - Nevada National Security Site 2012-2013
- Battelle - Pacific Northwest National Laboratory 2013-2014
- Nuclear Waste Partnership – Waste Isolation Pilot Plant 2013-2014
- UC – Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory 2013-2014
- UT-Battelle, LLC – Oak Ridge National Laboratory 2015
- Consolidated Nuclear Security, LLC – Y-12 National Security Complex and Pantex Plant 2014-2015
- Oak Ridge Associated Universities – Oak Ridge Institute for Science and Education 2012-2015
- Savannah River Nuclear Solutions, LLC – Savannah River Site 2013

Government Management Reform Act (GMRA)

- Audit of the Department of Energy's Fiscal Year 2016 Consolidated Financial Statements
- Audit of the Department of Energy's Improper Payment Reporting in the Fiscal Year 2015 Agency Financial Report
- Audit of the Fiscal Year 2016 Financial Statements of the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission
- Audit of the Fiscal Year 2016 Financial Statements of the Nuclear Waste Fund
- Audit of the Fiscal Year 2016 Combined Financial Statements of the Southwestern Federal Power System
- Audit of the Fiscal Year 2016 Combined Financial Statements of the Western Area Power Administration
- Management Letter on the Audit of the Department of Energy's Consolidated Financial Statements for Fiscal Year 2015

Inspection Work Plan for FY 2016

Eastern Inspections Region

- Purchase Card Risk Assessment
- Follow-up Review of Controls Over Department's Classification of National Security Information
- Emergency Preparedness at Selected Office of Science Sites
- Calibration and Maintenance of Production Equipment at Kansas City Plant
- Department's Insider Threat Analysis and Referral Center
- Follow-up Office of Intelligence's Safeguards for Security Clearances
- Review of Safety Protocol for Biosafety Laboratories at Selected Department of Energy Site
- Review of Incidents of Security Concerns Processes Involving Classified Matter at a Selected Department of Energy Site
- Replacement of the Wide Area Radio System at the Oak Ridge Reservation
- Effectiveness at Ensuring Whistleblower Protections While Securing Classified and National Security Information
- Follow-up Inspection of Management of Workers' Compensation Program

Western Inspections Region

- Protection of Health Information at Selected Department Sites
- Review of Legacy Waste Storage at the Los Alamos National Laboratory's Weapons Engineering Tritium Facility
- Effectiveness of Two Person Control Procedures and Safety Training at Nuclear Facilities
- Hazardous Materials and Safety Training at Los Alamos National Laboratory
- Review of National Nuclear Security Administration's Personnel Security Division's Process for Determining Access Authorization to Classified Matter or Material
- Management of the Department's Unmanned Aircraft Systems at Selected Sites
- Contractor Protective Force at Los Alamos National Laboratory
- Protective Force Mutual Aid between Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory and Sandia National Laboratories/California
- Review of Los Alamos National Laboratory's Transient Electromagnetic Pulse Surveillance Technology Program

APPENDIX B

Investigative Work Plan Priorities for FY 2016

Contract and Grant Fraud

A majority of the Department's budget is expended on contracts and grants; therefore, the opportunity for fraud to occur or exist within various Department programs is significant. In FY 2016, Investigations will continue to: (1) prioritize contract and grant fraud investigations, placing emphasis on cases with a potential high dollar recovery to the Department; (2) coordinate and pursue leads referred by the OIG Office of Audits and Inspections; and (3) proactively identify and pursue contract and grant fraud investigations.

Environment, Safety, and Health (ES&H)

The Department's program for cleaning up the environmental contamination caused by nuclear weapons research, production and testing is estimated to cost over \$250 billion over the next several decades. The OIG has identified environmental cleanup as a Department Management Challenge that is likely to persist well into the future. In FY 2016, Investigations will: (1) pursue investigations involving potential ES&H violations; (2) continue liaison efforts with ES&H contacts in the Department, NNSA, and other Government agencies; and (3) provide ES&H awareness briefings throughout the Department complex.

Issues Impacting the Integrity of Government Officials

Government officials have a responsibility to maintain the public's trust and confidence in the integrity of the Federal Government programs and operations. In FY 2016, based on information received through the OIG Hotline and other sources, the OIG Office of Investigations will continue to work with the Department of Justice to address allegations of criminal misconduct and ethical lapses on the part of government officials. The Office of Investigations will also continue to investigate related activities that may have resulted in fraud, waste, abuse and mismanagement.

Technology Crimes

The Office of Investigations' Technology Crimes Section (TCS) is staffed by investigators with the specialized skills necessary to proactively and reactively investigate the expanding number of complex technology crimes that are allegedly occurring within many of the Department's programs. TCS further strengthens the Office of Investigations' support to the Department, including NNSA, in detecting, preventing and investigating illegal network intrusions. During FY 2016, TCS will: (1) continue to proactively support OIG fraud investigations through consultations and forensic media analysis; (2) investigate incidents of technology crimes and non-compliance with applicable regulations involving protection

of the information infrastructure throughout the Department; (3) extend the Office of Investigations' role in technology incident response and investigations in the Department; and (4) provide technology crimes awareness briefings throughout the Department complex.