

IN RESPONSE, PLEASE
REFER TO: M070718B

August 3, 2007

MEMORANDUM TO: Luis A. Reyes
Executive Director for Operations

FROM: Kenneth R. Hart, Acting Secretary **/RA/**

SUBJECT: STAFF REQUIREMENTS - BRIEFING ON DIGITAL INSTRUMENTATION AND CONTROL), 1:00 P.M.,
WEDNESDAY, JULY 18, 2007, COMMISSIONERS' CONFERENCE ROOM, ONE WHITE FLINT NORTH,
ROCKVILLE, MARYLAND (OPEN TO PUBLIC ATTENDANCE)

The Commission was briefed by several experts in industry and the Federal Government on the application of digital instrumentation and control (I&C) for safety systems at nuclear power plants. The NRC staff provided a brief update on NRC readiness for new reactors and a summary of progress toward establishing an integrated digital I&C and human-machine interface test facility. The staff then addressed the status of regulatory infrastructure for digital I&C at operating reactors, new reactors, and fuel facilities.

The staff should proceed with the timely implementation of NRC's Digital Instrumentation and Control Project Plan and the issuance of interim guidance, recognizing that the staff will continue to work with the stakeholders to refine the guidance, to address the existing issues within each of the six task working groups (such as the 30-minute period before crediting operator action following a common cause digital I&C failure), and to risk-inform the regulatory framework for digital I&C.

The staff should continue to work with domestic and international working groups to address digital I&C issues and to leverage international experience in this area where appropriate.

cc: Chairman Klein
Commissioner McGaffigan
Commissioner Jaczko
Commissioner Lyons
OGC
CFO
OCA
OIG
OPA
Office Directors, Regions, ACRS, ACNW, ASLBP (via E-Mail)
PDR