

July 13, 2009

MEMORANDUM TO: Thomas M. Boyce, Director
Office of Information Services

FROM: Patrick D. Howard, Director */RA/*
Chief Information Security Officer

SUBJECT: MOBILE LAPTOP WIRELESS ACCESS INVESTIGATION

The Computer Security Office (CSO) and U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission Program Management, Policy Development and Analysis Directors held a meeting on June 30, 2009. At this meeting, Region IV raised the issue of not being able to use approved wireless capabilities because of the lack of cell tower coverage in the area. Although this issue was raised by Region IV, it may have additional domestic and/or international operational implications.

This memorandum is to request your support and action to conduct an investigation of alternative wireless capabilities to use in areas without adequate cell tower coverage. Use of satellite networks and associated wireless networks are one option that was discussed as a possibility. The results of this investigation will be used to facilitate more effective utilization of wireless capabilities agency-wide for use in areas without cell tower coverage. The CSO is requesting your feedback no later than September 1, 2009. I appreciate your assistance in this matter.

CONTACT: Kathy Lyons-Burke, CSO/PSTT
301-415-6595

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