



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

SECRETARY

December 28, 2010

C. Keith Paulson  
Senior Technical Manager  
Mitsubishi Nuclear Systems  
300 Oxford Dr., Suite 301  
Monroeville, PA 15146

Dear Mr. Paulson:

The U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) is pleased that you will participate in a public Commission meeting on digital instrumentation and controls (I&C), February 1, 2011, at 9:00 a.m. The meeting will be held in the Commissioners' Conference Room on the first floor of the NRC's Headquarters building at One White Flint North, Rockville, Maryland. The Commission is interested in hearing the new reactor vendor perspective on the current digital I&C licensing process and challenges. I am enclosing a copy of the draft meeting agenda for your information (enclosure 1). My staff will keep you informed of any updates to the agenda.

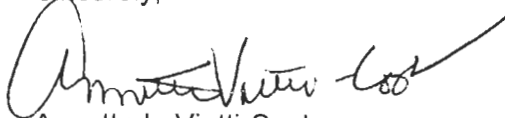
To assist the Commission in preparing for the meeting, please e-mail any written material, including slides/viewgraphs, to Ms. Rochelle Baval and Ms. Sandy Joosten ([rochelle.baval@nrc.gov](mailto:rochelle.baval@nrc.gov) and [sandy.joosten@nrc.gov](mailto:sandy.joosten@nrc.gov)) in the Office of the Secretary, by January 24, 2011, so that it can be distributed to the Commission for review in advance of the meeting. Enclosed are guidelines for slides, if you choose to use them (enclosure 2). PowerPoint is the preferred format, but other electronic presentation formats may be used. This Commission meeting will be webcast live at the Web address: [www.nrc.gov](http://www.nrc.gov). If you intend to use slides, they will also be posted on the NRC website prior to the meeting. If you have any questions, please contact Ms. Baval at 301-415-1651.

Your presentation at the Commission meeting should be based on the assumption that Commissioners are familiar with the content of your written material. Please plan your oral presentation for 10 minutes, discussing the important points on which you wish to focus the Commission's attention.

The NRC Headquarters building is located opposite the White Flint Metro Station on Rockville Pike and Marinelli Drive, Rockville, Maryland. The White Flint Metro Station is on the Red Line of the Washington area subway system. Reserved visitor parking for Commission guests is available. If you wish to use reserved parking, please notify Ms. Baval in advance. If reserved parking has been arranged, please check-in with the security staff at the entrance to the NRC campus on Marinelli Drive when you arrive. A Security Guard will call for an escort. Please

note that visitors will be screened through metal detectors, will have their packages x-rayed, and will be required to present a picture identification card prior to signing in at the registration desk.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Annette Vietti-Cook". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large initial "A" and a long, sweeping flourish at the end.

Annette L. Vietti-Cook  
Secretary of the Commission

Enclosures:

1. Draft Agenda
2. Briefing Visuals Guidance

Draft: 12/28/10

**SCHEDULING NOTE**

**Title:** **BRIEFING ON DIGITAL INSTRUMENTATION & CONTROLS (I&C) (Public)**

**Purpose:** To provide the Commission with an updated status on digital systems licensing activities to date and lessons learned: licensing of digital conversions for existing plants, licensing of digital systems for new reactors, research on digital systems, and staff efforts to improve the regulatory infrastructure for review of digital systems.

**Scheduled:** **February 1, 2011**  
**9:00 am**

**Duration:** Approx. 3 hours and 10 minutes

**Location:** Commissioners' Conference Room, 1<sup>st</sup> floor OWFN

**Participants:** **Presentation**

**External Panel** **50 mins.\***

**C. Keith Paulson**, Senior Technical Manager, Mitsubishi Nuclear Systems 10 mins.\*  
Topic: New reactor vendor perspective on the current digital I&C licensing process and challenges

**Tom Sliva**, Vice President, New Plant Project Management and Construction, Areva 10 mins.\*  
Topic: New reactor applicant perspective on the current digital I&C licensing process and challenges

**Tom Ray**, Oconee Nuclear Station Engineering Manager, Duke Energy 10 mins.\*  
Topic: Implementation phase of the digital I&C upgrade to the Oconee plants

**Scott Patterson**, I&C Manager, Pacific Gas and Electric (Diablo Canyon) 10 mins.\*  
Topic: Status of preparations to pilot Interim Staff Guidance on licensing process and industry perspective on regulatory stability

**TBD, NASA** 10 mins.\*  
Topic: Digital I&C software reliability

**Commission Q & A** **25 mins.**

**Break** **5 mins**

**NRC Staff Panel** **45 mins.\***

**Bill Borchardt**, Executive Director for Operations

**Jack Grobe**, Deputy Director for Engineering and Corporate Support, NRR, and  
Chairman, Digital Instrumentation and Controls Steering Committee

**Thomas Bergman**, Director, Division of Engineering, NRO

**Mike Case**, Director, Division of Engineering, RES

**Pat Hiland**, Director, Division of Engineering, NRR

(Additional staff at the table to answer questions if needed: Steve Arndt, Senior Technical Advisor for Digital I&C , Division of Engineering, NRR)

Topics:

- DI&C Steering Committee Activities
- Licensing Activities
  - Experience from recent licensing activities
  - Current status of digital I&C upgrade for operating reactors
  - Current status of digital I&C reviews for new reactors
- Research Programs to support digital system reviews
  - Digital I&C research at national labs
  - Operational experience
  - Failure modes identification and analysis
  - Digital system PRA research
- International Interactions

**Commission Q & A** **25 mins.**

**Discussion – Wrap-up** **5 mins.**

\*For presentation only and does not include time for Commission Q & A's

Documents:

Staff Background material due to SECY: January 14, 2011.

Slides due to SECY: January 24, 2011.

**PRESENTATION TITLE**

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***Date of Briefing***

***Your name, title, office***

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## **Slide Title – Arial Black 36**

- ***Text (Arial Black 32) on white.***
- ***Top and Side margins 1 inch min.***
- ***Bottom margin 2 inch min.***
- ***Number pages***
- ***Explain acronyms or include a separate slide with list***