

April 11, 2011

The Honorable Jacob J. Lew  
Director, Office of Management and Budget  
Washington, D.C. 20503

Dear Mr. Lew:

This letter is in response to your memorandum of February 3, 2011, to the heads of executive departments and agencies regarding the continued implementation of Homeland Security Presidential Directive 12, "Policy for a Common Identification Standard for Federal Employees and Contractors," dated August 27, 2004.

The U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) understands the importance of identity management in protecting the Nation's infrastructure. The agency has complied with your mandate and has developed and issued an implementation policy on March 31, 2011, that requires the use of personal identity verification (PIV) credentials as the common means of authentication for access to the NRC's facilities, networks, and information systems. The implementation policy addresses each of the requirements included in your mandate.

The NRC intends to incorporate the PIV enablement requirement into our Federal Information Security Management Act (FISMA) Authority to Operate (ATO) review process. The NRC will continue to develop and refine policy guidance as the technical environment for authentication at both the local and the Federal levels matures.

As reflected in our e-mail correspondence dated February 22, 2011, to both the U.S. General Services Administration and the U.S. Department of Homeland Security, NRC has named Mr. Darren Ash, the NRC's Deputy Executive Director for Corporate Management, as our lead agency official for implementing this policy. Should you have any questions regarding this policy, please feel free to contact him at (301) 415-7443.

Sincerely,

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Gregory B. Jaczko