



SECRETARY

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

October 25, 2016

COMMISSION VOTING RECORD

DECISION ITEM:               SECY-16-0070

TITLE:                            INTEGRATED STRATEGY TO MODERNIZE THE NUCLEAR  
REGULATORY COMMISSION'S DIGITAL INSTRUMENTATION  
AND CONTROL REGULATORY INFRASTRUCTURE

The Commission acted on the subject paper as recorded in the Staff Requirements Memorandum (SRM) of October 25, 2016.

This Record contains a summary of voting on this matter together with the individual vote sheets, views and comments of the Commission.

A handwritten signature in red ink, reading "Annette Vietti-Cook".

Annette L. Vietti-Cook  
Secretary of the Commission

Enclosures:

1. Voting Summary
2. Commissioner Vote Sheets

cc: Chairman Burns  
Commissioner Svinicki  
Commissioner Baran  
OGC  
EDO  
PDR

VOTING SUMMARY – SECY-16-0070

RECORDED VOTES

	<u>APPROVED</u>	<u>DISAPPROVED</u>	<u>ABSTAIN</u>	<u>NOT PARTICIPATING</u>	<u>COMMENTS</u>	<u>DATE</u>
Chrm. Burns	X				X	09/22/16
Cmr. Svinicki	X				X	10/13/16
Cmr. Baran	X				X	07/08/16

**RESPONSE SHEET**

**TO:** Annette Vietti-Cook, Secretary

**FROM:** Chairman Burns

**SUBJECT:** SECY-16-0070: INTEGRATED STRATEGY TO  
MODERNIZE THE NUCLEAR REGULATORY  
COMMISSION'S DIGITAL INSTRUMENTATION AND  
CONTROL REGULATORY INFRASTRUCTURE

Approved XX Disapproved \_\_\_\_\_ Abstain \_\_\_\_\_ Not Participating \_\_\_\_\_

COMMENTS: Below XX Attached \_\_\_\_\_ None \_\_\_\_\_

I approve implementation of the staff's integrated action plan to modernize the NRC's digital instrumentation and control regulatory infrastructure. I thank the staff for the comprehensive response to the Staff Requirements Memorandum to SECY-15-0106 and the development of a detailed action plan. I agree with Commissioner Baran that the staff's engagement with stakeholders on the development of the 2018 version of the IEEE Standard 603 in lieu of the adoption the 2009 version is a reasonable approach given the many issues that continue to be deliberated. I approve the staff's proposal to address shortfalls in the FY 2016 and FY 2017 budgets through the add/shed process. Resources for activities in FY 2018 were addressed in Commission direction on the FY 2018 budget.

**Entered in STARS**

Yes x  
No \_\_\_\_\_



\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature

22 September 2016

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

RESPONSE SHEET

TO: Annette Vietti-Cook, Secretary  
FROM: COMMISSIONER SVINICKI  
SUBJECT: SECY-16-0070: INTEGRATED STRATEGY TO  
MODERNIZE THE NUCLEAR REGULATORY  
COMMISSION'S DIGITAL INSTRUMENTATION AND  
CONTROL REGULATORY INFRASTRUCTURE

Approved XX Disapproved \_\_\_\_\_ Abstain \_\_\_\_\_ Not Participating \_\_\_\_\_

COMMENTS: Below \_\_\_\_\_ Attached XX None \_\_\_\_\_

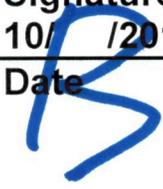
Entered in STARS

Yes

No

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature

10/ /2016

Date  


**Commissioner Svinicki's Comments on SECY-16-0070**  
**Integrated Strategy to Modernize the NRC's Digital Instrumentation and Control**  
**Regulatory Infrastructure**

I approve the staff's planned set of activities, as described in the Integrated Action Plan (Enclosure 1 to SECY-16-0070), that are being undertaken with the intent of achieving "a state in which the nuclear power industry can obtain regulatory approval to use digital technology that provides for adequate safety and security through processes that are efficient, minimize uncertainty, and can be consistently applied across different technologies." As the staff acknowledges, the Integrated Action Plan is intended to be a "living document" subject to staff revision. Consequently, Commission approval of the plan itself is neither necessary nor appropriate. Rather, I approve the activities proposed by the staff as Modernization Plans 1 through 4, as the appropriate priorities for this effort. When combined with the issues outlined in Appendix A, "Additional Regulatory Infrastructure Modernization Topics (May 2016)," the activities encompassed by the plan are both fully consistent with the Commission-directed policy attributes contained in SRM-SECY-15-0106 and, as a result of the extensive stakeholder engagement on these topics conducted by the staff, reflect a comprehensive understanding of the work to be done to achieve the overall vision.

The establishment of the executive steering committee will help to guide the staff's progress in this work, however, the attention of the Commission itself will also advance these efforts. In light of the staff's desire to maintain the Integrated Action Plan as a "living document" subject to unilateral change by the staff, some mechanism for Commission oversight is needed. To meet this need, one year after the issuance of the staff requirements memorandum for SECY-16-0070 and annually thereafter, the staff should provide a paper to the Commission reporting on the status of the work on and planned future activities for Modernization Plans 1 through 4, and any future progeny. The paper should also contain the staff's assessment of agency progress against the staff's long-term modernization goal of "a simpler, streamlined, and agile [instrumentation and control] I&C regulatory infrastructure that will effectively address large scale digital I&C facility upgrades and I&C designs for new and advanced reactors, as well as medical radioisotope production and irradiation facilities." For the first two years of staff activity under the plan, semi-annual Commissioner Assistants briefs, similar to those offered on other complex generic issues, should be conducted by the staff.

I approve the staff's proposal to address any shortfalls in the FY 2017 budget for these activities through the agency add/shed process. Resources for these activities in FY 2018 have been addressed in Commission direction on the FY 2018 budget. In resolving these complex issues, the staff should seek frequent public and stakeholder interactions. In order to facilitate timely internal NRC alignment, matters should be elevated to the steering committee without undue delay. As the staff completes activities in accordance with the plan, any policy issues identified should be presented to the Commission promptly for resolution.



Kristine L. Svinicki

October 13, 2016

**RESPONSE SHEET**

**TO:** Annette Vietti-Cook, Secretary

**FROM:** Commissioner Baran

**SUBJECT:** **SECY-16-0070: INTEGRATED STRATEGY TO  
MODERNIZE THE NUCLEAR REGULATORY  
COMMISSION'S DIGITAL INSTRUMENTATION AND  
CONTROL REGULATORY INFRASTRUCTURE**

Approved  Disapproved  Abstain  Not Participating

COMMENTS: Below  Attached  None

I approve the staff's detailed action plan to improve NRC's regulatory process for digital instrumentation and control systems, subject to two additions. Because the NRC staff is engaged with stakeholders on the development of the 2018 version of the Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers (IEEE) Standard 603, the staff has not included adoption of the 2009 standard in its action plan. I think that's a reasonable approach. In order to facilitate the timely adoption of the 2018 standard, the staff should provide the Commission with a rulemaking plan to adopt the new standard, subject to any licensing and technical conditions the staff may propose, within 30 days of the issuance of this revised IEEE Standard. In addition, the staff should brief the Commission Technical Assistants every six months on the status of implementation of the action plan.

**Entered in STARS**

Yes

No

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
**Signature**

7/8/16  
\_\_\_\_\_  
**Date**