



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

November 29, 2017

MEMORANDUM TO: Jimi Yerokun, Director  
Division of Reactor Safety  
Region I

THRU: James Andersen, Director */RA/*  
Division of Physical and Cyber Security Policy  
Office of Nuclear Security and Incident Response

FROM: James Beardsley, Chief */RA/*  
Cyber Security Branch  
Division of Physical and Cyber Security Policy  
Office of Nuclear Security and Incident Response

SUBJECT: CERTIFICATION PROGRAM PROPOSAL FOR CYBER  
SECURITY SUPPORT TECHNICIANS

The Region I (RI) Division of Reactor Safety (DRS) developed a proposal to improve the effectiveness and efficiency of the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) cyber security inspections through utilization of Information Technology (IT) staff in the Division of Resource Management. The proposal is a certification derived from the Inspection Manual Chapter (IMC) 1245 cyber security inspector requirements for IT specialists to be cyber security support technicians. The goal of the certification is for IT personnel to gain and/or enhance cyber security expertise as well as regulatory skills in order to provide support for cyber security inspections. The DRS submitted this proposal to the Division of Physical and Cyber Security Policy (DPCP) in the Office of Nuclear Security and Incident Response (NSIR) for review and consideration.

Based on the review of the proposal and discussions between NSIR, the Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation (NRR) and RI, NSIR has agreed to support the Cyber Security Support Technician Certification. The IT specialist would not necessarily need fully developed inspector skills since he/she would function as part of a team conducting the cyber security inspections. Therefore, the IT specialists would complete a cyber security certification, as described in the Certification for Cyber Security Support Technicians (see enclosure 1).

NSIR will support the cyber security certification process with the following recommendations:

- Pilot the training certification program in RI for one cycle of inspections and share lessons learned with the other regions to evaluate the effectiveness, advantages, disadvantages, and potential adjustments.

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- Allow completion of the inspections at least through 2018 before any programmatic changes are developed.
- Submit to NSIR the results of the lessons learned, advantages, disadvantages, and potential changes that can be implemented to improve the efficiency and effectiveness of the NRC cyber security inspections as it relates to IT specialized support.

If, at some point in the future, the cyber security support technicians have gained the necessary knowledge and experience to conduct inspections, then the individual should finish the established qualification process requirements delineated in IMC 1245 Appendix A "Basic-Level Training and Qualification Journal" and Appendix B "General Proficiency-Level Training and Qualification Journal" to be considered inspectors.

Enclosures:

1. Certification for Cyber Security Support Technicians
2. Cyber Security Support Technician Certificate

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**\*(concurrent via e-mail)**

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