



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

March 1, 2023

MEMORANDUM TO: Chair Hanson
Commissioner Baran
Commissioner Wright
Commissioner Caputo
Commissioner Crowell

FROM: Mirela Gavrilas, Director
Office of Nuclear Security and Incident Response

Craig Erlanger Erlanger, Craig signing on behalf
of Gavrilas, Mirela
on 03/01/23

SUBJECT: RESPONSE TO SRM-CTH210414-NSIR, ISSUANCE OF
REGULATORY GUIDE 5.71, REVISION 1, "CYBERSECURITY
PROGRAMS FOR NUCLEAR POWER REACTORS"

This memorandum informs the Commission that the staff published Regulatory Guide (RG) 5.71, Revision 1, "Cybersecurity Programs for Nuclear Power Reactors," (Agencywide Documents Access and Management System (ADAMS) Accession No. ML22258A204) on February 3, 2023. RG 5.71 was revised, in part, to address recommendations from the staff's review of a letter from Advisory Committee on Reactor Safeguards (ACRS) Chairman Sunseri to Chair Hanson dated March 31, 2021, titled "Unidirectional Communications (Not Implemented in Software) From High Safety to Lower Safety Systems and Internal Plant to External Systems Connected to the Internet" (ML21085A014).

In this letter, Chairman Sunseri raised concerns regarding unidirectional communication between systems in nuclear power plants. In response, on April 14, 2021, Chair Hanson directed the staff to review the issues raised in the letter and to provide the Commission with information on how the staff addresses the concerns raised by the ACRS (ML21112A190). A team of experts in the Offices of Nuclear Security and Incident Response and Nuclear Reactor Regulation reviewed those concerns and, on June 30, 2021, issued a report (ML21175A332) that included a recommendation to revise RG 5.71 to reference RG 1.152, "Criteria for Use of Computers in Safety Systems of Nuclear Power Plants," to increase awareness among design certification applicants of the cybersecurity controls that could be incorporated as part of the nuclear power reactor design. The staff's revision to RG 5.71 includes references to RG 1.152 and discusses how an applicant could use both RGs to address cybersecurity requirements through design features.

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Memo from M. Gavrilas to the Commissioners re issuance of RG 5.71 DATE March 1, 2023

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