## September 6, 2011

MEMORANDUM TO: R. W. Borchardt

**Executive Director for Operations** 

FROM: Annette L. Vietti-Cook, Secretary /RA/

SUBJECT: STAFF REQUIREMENTS – SECY-11-0094 – ADVANTAGES

AND DISADVANTAGES OF CHANGING THE CURRENT AUTHENTICATION ASSURANCE LEVEL (LEVEL 4) OF THE

NATIONAL SOURCE TRACKING SYSTEM

The Commission has approved Option 2, which would reduce the authentication assurance level of the National Source Tracking System (NSTS) to Level 3 for all users.

Given the sensitivity of the information in the NSTS, the staff should periodically reassess the security levels for the system, including the authentication assurance level and the feasibility of a graduated approach, to ensure that the information is properly protected.

The staff should keep the Commission informed of the status of the NSTS and implementation of Option 2.

If the NRC's Designated Approving Authority should feel a lower level of authentication for NSTS is justified in the future, including use of a graded approach, this change should be subject to the Commission's review and approval before being instituted.

The staff should implement the change in authentication level in a manner that ensures minimal additional burden to NSTS users.

cc: Chairman Jaczko

Commissioner Svinicki Commissioner Apostolakis Commissioner Magwood Commissioner Ostendorff

OGC CFO

OCA

OPA

Office Directors, Regions, ACRS, ASLBP (via E-Mail)

PDR