

January 30, 2012

Dr. Said Abdel-Khalik, Chairman
Advisory Committee on Reactor Safeguards
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Washington, DC 20555-0001

SUBJECT: RESPONSE TO ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON REACTOR SAFEGUARDS
AUGUST 11, 2011, REGARDING FINAL REVISION 3 OF REGULATORY
GUIDE 1.152, "CRITERIA FOR USE OF COMPUTERS IN SAFETY SYSTEMS
OF NUCLEAR POWER PLANTS"

Dear Dr. Abdel-Khalik:

In your letter dated August 11, 2011 (Agencywide Documents Access and Management System Accession No. ML11199A149), you summarized the views of the Advisory Committee on Reactor Safeguards (ACRS or the Committee) with respect to the separation of digital system safety and cyber security reviews that was made final by the issuance of Revision 3 of Regulatory Guide (RG) 1.152, "Criteria for Use of Computers in Safety Systems of Nuclear Power Plants," in July 2011. The staff of the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) is committed to working closely and cooperatively with the Committee.

The staff understands the ACRS position that the digital architecture should be reviewed to ensure that proper technical controls have been implemented. The NRC regulations require licensees have a comprehensive program, including the implementation of appropriate digital architecture, to ensure safety and security of digital safety systems. The staff appreciates the comments and recommendations provided by ACRS. We look forward to continuing to work with the Committee as we develop the program.

Sincerely,

/RA by Martin J Virgilio for/

R. W. Borchardt
Executive Director
for Operations

cc: Chairman Jaczko
Commissioner Svinicki
Commissioner Apostolakis
Commissioner Magwood
Commissioner Ostendorff
SECY

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