



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

December 20, 2017

Mr. David A. Powner, Director  
Information Technology Management Issues  
U.S. Government Accountability Office  
441 G Street, NW  
Washington, DC 20548

Dear Mr. Powner:

On behalf of the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC), I am writing to report on the NRC's actions to address the recommendation in U.S. Government Accountability Office (GAO) report GAO-18-148, "INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY REFORM: Agencies Need to Improve Certification of Incremental Development."

GAO recommended that the NRC's Chief Information Officer (CIO) establish an agencywide policy and process for the CIO's certification of the adequate use of incremental development of major information technology investments, in accordance with the Office of Management and Budget's guidance on the implementation of the Federal Information Technology Acquisition Reform Act. GAO also recommended that the policy and process include a description of the CIO's role in the certification process and a description of how the CIO certification will be documented.

The NRC will update its Capital Planning and Investment Control policy and process documents to include (1) an agencywide process to ensure that all major information technology investments and acquisitions are reviewed for the use of adequate incremental development; (2) the role of the CIO in the process; and (3) how the CIO's certification will be documented. All updates will be completed by December 31, 2017.

Should you have any questions regarding the NRC's response, please contact Mr. John Jolicoeur, Executive Technical Assistant, at (301) 415-1642 or via e-mail at [John.Jolicoeur@nrc.gov](mailto:John.Jolicoeur@nrc.gov).

Sincerely,

Kristine L. Svinicki

**Identical letter sent to the following recipients, with the exception of the replacement of the point of contact with the Chairman and the Director of the Office of Congressional Affairs:**

Mr. David A. Powner, Director  
Information Technology Management Issues  
U.S. Government Accountability Office  
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The Honorable Ron Johnson  
Chairman, Committee on Homeland Security  
and Governmental Affairs  
United States Senate  
Washington, DC 20510  
cc: Senator Claire McCaskill

The Honorable Trey Gowdy  
Chairman, Committee on Oversight  
and Government Reform  
United States House of Representatives  
Washington, DC 20515  
cc: Representative Elijah Cummings

The Honorable John Barrasso  
Chairman, Committee on Environment  
and Public Works  
United States Senate  
Washington, DC 20510  
cc: Senator Thomas R. Carper

The Honorable Shelley Moore Capito  
Chairman, Subcommittee on Clean Air  
and Nuclear Safety  
Committee on Environment and Public Works  
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cc: Senator Sheldon Whitehouse

The Honorable Greg Walden  
Chairman, Committee on Energy  
and Commerce  
United States House of Representatives  
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cc: Representative Frank Pallone, Jr.

The Honorable Fred Upton  
Chairman, Subcommittee on Energy  
Committee on Energy and Commerce  
United States House of Representatives  
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cc: Representative Bobby L. Rush

The Honorable John Shimkus  
Chairman, Subcommittee on Environment  
Committee on Energy and Commerce  
United States House of Representatives  
Washington, DC 20515  
cc: Representative Paul Tonko

The Honorable Thad Cochran  
Chairman, Committee on Appropriations  
United States Senate  
Washington, DC 20510  
cc: Senator Patrick Leahy

The Honorable Lamar Alexander  
Chairman, Subcommittee on Energy  
and Water Development  
Committee on Appropriations  
United States Senate  
Washington, DC 20510  
cc: Senator Dianne Feinstein

The Honorable Rodney Frelinghuysen  
Chairman, Committee on Appropriations  
United States House of Representatives  
Washington, DC 20515  
cc: Representative Nita Lowey

The Honorable Mike Simpson  
Chairman, Subcommittee on Energy  
and Water Development  
Committee on Appropriations  
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cc: Representative Marcy Kaptur