

**Response to Requests for Information
House Oversight and Government Reform Committee
Subcommittee on Information Technology
Subcommittee on Government Operations
Letter dated December 7, 2017**

1. Where is the Chief Information Officer currently located within the organizational structure? Please provide a current organizational chart.

The Chief Information Officer (CIO) reports to the Executive Director for Operations (EDO), the chief operating officer and chief administrative officer of the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC). The EDO is authorized and directed to discharge the operational and administrative functions necessary for the day-to-day operations of the agency. This includes supervising and coordinating policy development, agency operational activities, and implementation of Commission policy directives. A current organization chart is attached (Enclosure 2).

2. If the Chief Information Officer is not a direct report to the Chairman or panel of Commissioners, why?

- a. **Is there a statutory basis for this organizational structure? If so, please provide the citation.**
- b. **Is this organizational structure based on an agency rule, guidance, or other document? Please provide the document(s) supporting the organizational structure.**

There is a statutory basis for this organizational structure at the NRC. Section 2(b) of Reorganization Plan No. 1 of 1980 (enacted into law by Public Law No. 98-532) expressly requires the NRC's Chairman to delegate to the EDO the "administrative functions" of the agency, subject to the Chairman's direction and supervision. Given the nature of a CIO's responsibilities, the function of supervising the CIO is reasonably viewed as falling into the "administrative functions" category. Accordingly, although 44 U.S.C. 3506 initially places this function with the NRC Chairman (the "head of the agency" at the NRC for administrative functions), the Reorganization Plan provides a statutory basis for the Chairman to delegate the function to the EDO. Consistent with this statutory framework, the NRC's CIO officially reports directly to the EDO, rather than reporting directly to the Chairman.

3. Has the agency considered changing the organizational structure to elevate the Chief Information Officer to directly report to the Chairman or panel of Commissioners?

- a. **If yes, please provide related documents and communications, including information on the current status of this discussion. If not, please provide an explanation as to whether and when the agency will consider such a change.**

The Commission is not currently considering a change that would have the CIO report directly to the Chairman. After the CIO requirement was enacted in the Information Technology Management Reform Act of 1996, the Chairman approved the organizational placement of the CIO as a position reporting to the Chairman. In 2000, however, the NRC's Office of the Inspector General (OIG) issued an audit report that analyzed, among other things, the CIO reporting arrangement at the NRC. For a variety of reasons, the OIG audit report (Enclosure 3) recommended that the NRC, consistent with section 2(b) of the Reorganization Plan, adjust the

CIO reporting relationship so that the CIO would report to the EDO rather than the Chairman. In 2001, the Commission approved adopting this approach (Enclosure 4). The NRC believes the current approach complies with the statutory requirement that the NRC Chairman delegate the "administrative functions" of the agency to the EDO and best integrates information technology into staff operations and the safety mission of the agency. The Commission continues to maintain direct access to the CIO through periodic meetings between the CIO and individual Commissioners.