



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

January 24, 2020

Mr. Sparky (Khaled) Soudah
Director IT-Operations Technology Services
Entergy Services, LLC
2107 Research Forest Drive
The Woodlands, TX 77380

SUBJECT: PERFORMANCE-BASED TESTING PROPOSAL

Dear Mr. Soudah:

In your letter dated December 21, 2019 you requested that the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) staff review and find acceptable the Entergy "Approach to Performance-Based Testing for the Nuclear Cyber Security Program." The NRC staff met with Entergy representatives on several occasions to discuss the Entergy document, and conducted a review of the document for its acceptability for use by Entergy to conduct performance testing demonstrations in support of inspections. As mentioned during these meetings, it has been current practice by some licensees during current Cyber Security inspections to demonstrate incident response performance through the use of table-top exercises during inspections. Your proposal would be an enhancement to performance review during inspections.

It has been noted in your document that Entergy shall develop and add to this document an acceptable appendix with details of the performance testing protocols before this proposal is implemented. If these changes are made to your document, the NRC finds your proposal acceptable for use during inspections.

Should you or your staff have any questions, please contact Mr. Ralph Costello at (301) 287-3618.

Sincerely,

/RA/

Shana Helton, Director
Division of Physical and Cyber Security Policy
Office of Nuclear Security and Incident Response

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ADAMS Accession Number: ML20031C877

OFFICE	NSIR/DPCP/CSB	NSIR/DPCP/CSB	NSIR/DPCP
NAME	R. Costello	J. Beardsley	S. Helton
DATE	01/15/20	01/22/20	01/24/20

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