



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

May 25, 2023

SECRETARY

MEMORANDUM TO: Daniel H. Dorman  
Executive Director for Operations

FROM: Brooke P. Clark, Secretary

SUBJECT: STAFF REQUIREMENTS – SECY-22-0076 – EXPANSION OF  
CURRENT POLICY ON POTENTIAL COMMON-CAUSE  
FAILURES IN DIGITAL INSTRUMENTATION AND CONTROL  
SYSTEMS

The Commission has approved the staff's recommendation to expand the existing policy for digital instrumentation and control (I&C) common-cause failures to allow the use of risk-informed approaches to demonstrate the appropriate level of defense-in-depth, subject to the enclosed edits. The staff should clarify in the implementing guidance that the new policy is independent of the licensing pathway selected by reactor licensees and applicants. Given the regulatory importance of this issue, the staff should complete the final implementing guidance within a year from the date of this Staff Requirements Memorandum.

Enclosure:

Edits to Expanded Policy for Staff Review of Applications Involving Digital I&C Systems

cc: Chair Hanson  
Commissioner Baran  
Commissioner Wright  
Commissioner Caputo  
Commissioner Crowell  
OGC  
CFO  
OCA  
OPA  
ODs, RAs, ACRS, ASLBP  
PDR