



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

August 24, 2006

SECRETARY

COMMISSION VOTING RECORD

DECISION ITEM: SECY-06-0173

TITLE: HISTORY OF THE EMERGENCY NOTIFICATION SYSTEM
AND OPTIONS TO PROVIDE CONFIRMATION OF
AUTHORITY/IDENTITY OF A CALLER

The Commission (with all Commissioners agreeing) approved the subject paper as recorded in the Staff Requirements Memorandum (SRM) of August 24, 2006.

This Record contains a summary of voting on this matter together with the individual vote sheets, views and comments of the Commission.

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Annette L. Vietti-Cook".

Annette L. Vietti-Cook
Secretary of the Commission

Attachments:

1. Voting Summary
2. Commissioner Vote Sheets

cc: Chairman Klein
Commissioner McGaffigan
Commissioner Merrifield
Commissioner Jaczko
Commissioner Lyons
OGC
EDO
PDR

VOTING SUMMARY - SECY-06-0173

RECORDED VOTES

	APRVD	DISAPRVD	ABSTAIN	NOT PARTICIP	COMMENTS	DATE
CHRM. KLEIN	X				X	8/15/06
COMR. McGAFFIGAN	X				X	8/16/06
COMR. MERRIFIELD	X				X	8/9/06
COMR. JACZKO	X				X	8/11/06
COMR. LYONS	X				X	8/9/06

COMMENT RESOLUTION

In their vote sheets, all Commissioners approved the staff's recommendation and provided some additional comments. Subsequently, the comments of the Commission were incorporated into the guidance to staff as reflected in the SRM issued on August 24, 2006.

NOTATION VOTE


RESPONSE SHEET

TO: Annette Vietti-Cook, Secretary
FROM: CHAIRMAN KLEIN
SUBJECT: SECY-06-0173 - HISTORY OF THE EMERGENCY
NOTIFICATION SYSTEM AND OPTIONS TO PROVIDE
CONFIRMATION OF AUTHORITY/IDENTITY OF A
CALLER

Approved XX Disapproved _____ Abstain _____

Not Participating _____

COMMENTS: Below _____ Attached XX None _____



SIGNATURE

Aug 15, 2006

DATE

Entered on "STARS" Yes No _____

OFFICIAL USE ONLY - SENSITIVE INTERNAL INFORMATION
LIMITED TO NRC UNLESS THE COMMISSION DETERMINES OTHERWISE

Chairman Klein's Comments on SECY-06-0173

I join Commissioners Lyons and Merrifield in approving the staff's proposal for the use of authentication codes to validate caller identification during imminent threats and physical attacks.

I also join Commissioners Lyons and Merrifield in cautioning the staff to carefully consider longer term enhancements in terms of the capabilities and flexibility of the technology and the resources needed to deploy and maintain such enhancements.

NOTATION VOTE

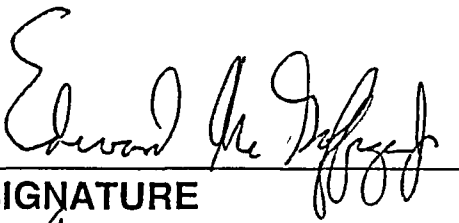
RESPONSE SHEET

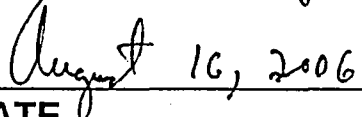
TO: Annette Vietti-Cook, Secretary
FROM: COMMISSIONER MCGAFFIGAN
SUBJECT: SECY-06-0173 - HISTORY OF THE EMERGENCY NOTIFICATION SYSTEM AND OPTIONS TO PROVIDE CONFIRMATION OF AUTHORITY/IDENTITY OF A CALLER

Approved Disapproved _____ Abstain _____

Not Participating _____

COMMENTS: Below _____ Attached None _____



SIGNATURE


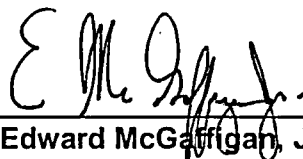
DATE

Entered on "STARS" Yes No _____

Commissioner McGaffigan's Comments on SECY-06-0173

I join Chairman Klein and Commissioners Lyons and Merrifield in approving the staff's proposal for the use of authentication codes to validate caller identification during imminent threats and physical attacks.

I also agree with my colleagues that the staff should carefully consider longer term enhancements in terms of the capabilities and flexibility of the technology and the resources needed to deploy and maintain such enhancements. In particular, I agree with Commissioner Lyons that the ongoing, rapid evolution in information and communication technology cautions against large capital investments.



Edward McGaffigan, Jr.

8/16/06

(Date)

NOTATION VOTE

RESPONSE SHEET

TO: Annette Vietti-Cook, Secretary
FROM: COMMISSIONER MERRIFIELD
SUBJECT: SECY-06-0173 - HISTORY OF THE EMERGENCY
NOTIFICATION SYSTEM AND OPTIONS TO PROVIDE
CONFIRMATION OF AUTHORITY/IDENTITY OF A
CALLER

Approved Disapproved Abstain

Not Participating

COMMENTS: Below Attached None



SIGNATURE



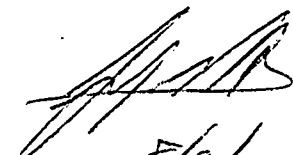
DATE

Entered on "STARS" Yes No

Commissioner Merrifield's Comments on SECY-06-0173

I approve the staff's proposal for authentication codes to validate caller identification during imminent threats and physical attacks. This is a viable and economic near term solution, especially since this level of validation does not currently exist and can be implemented in a relatively short period of time. I am also encouraged by the staff's initial dialogue with the Nuclear Energy Institute. I concur with the staff's plans to continue these discussions during the implementation phase of the program.

I would caution the staff to carefully consider both the capabilities and the resources needed for longer term enhancements and additional technologies. The goal is to identify and implement technology that works, but that is not cost prohibitive with regard to initial costs and the required maintenance or upgrading of the system. The identification of the pros and cons for any potential longer term solution is valuable information for the Commission's consideration, and I look forward to the staff's implementation study in a subsequent Commission Paper.



8/9/06

NOTATION VOTE


RESPONSE SHEET

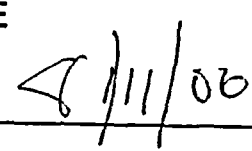
TO: Annette Vietti-Cook, Secretary
FROM: COMMISSIONER JACZKO
SUBJECT: SECY-06-0173 - HISTORY OF THE EMERGENCY NOTIFICATION SYSTEM AND OPTIONS TO PROVIDE CONFIRMATION OF AUTHORITY/IDENTITY OF A CALLER

Approved Disapproved Abstain

Not Participating

COMMENTS: Below Attached None



SIGNATURE


DATE

Entered on "STARS" Yes No

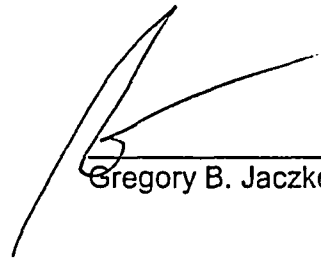
**Commissioner Gregory B. Jaczko's Comments on SECY-06-0173
History of the Emergency Notification System and Options to Provide Confirmation of
Authority/Identity of a Caller**

I want to recognize Commissioner Lyons for his leadership on this issue. One of the first visits I made to a power reactor after I joined the Commission was with Commissioner Lyons, and it was clear then that he was aware and concerned about improving the authentication of communications between the NRC and licensees. I thank him for his work to ensure a solution is found.

Therefore, I approve of the staff recommendation to begin the use of codes to verify the authenticity of communications between the NRC Operations Center and Nuclear Power Reactor licensees and I agree with Commissioner Lyons' desire to provide the staff with the flexibility to make modifications to this program as it is implemented. The staff has provided a good, detailed summary of the history and the options for improving the authentication process. I commend the staff for their initiative in looking beyond technological solutions to develop a fast, effective, low-cost and straightforward resolution to this issue.

I also approve of the staff's approach to use the formal generic communication tool of a public Security Advisory to communicate the new procedure. This is another opportunity the agency can seize to show how seriously it takes security without revealing any sensitive security-related information. Therefore, staff should edit the last page of the draft Security Advisory to delete the work "safeguards" to avoid any confusion about the handling of this advisory.

The procedures should also be modified to ensure that the codes are provided to the Chairman and to a Commissioner designated by the Chairman as having temporary Emergency Powers, so that they will always be able to communicate immediately and directly with licensees.



Gregory B. Jaczko 8/11/06
Date

NOTATION VOTE


RESPONSE SHEET

TO: Annette Vietti-Cook, Secretary
FROM: COMMISSIONER LYONS
SUBJECT: SECY-06-0173 - HISTORY OF THE EMERGENCY NOTIFICATION SYSTEM AND OPTIONS TO PROVIDE CONFIRMATION OF AUTHORITY/IDENTITY OF A CALLER

Approved x Disapproved Abstain

Not Participating

COMMENTS: Below Attached x None



SIGNATURE

 8/9/06

DATE

Entered on "STARS" Yes ✓ No

Commissioner Lyons' Comments on SECY-06-0173

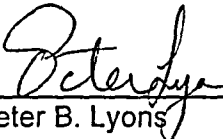
History of the ENS and Options to Provide Confirmation of Authority/Identity of a Caller

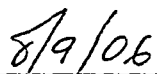
I appreciate the staff's efforts to develop the historical perspective and the set of alternatives that have been provided.

I support the use of authentication codes as an effective and low cost solution while alternative technological solutions are explored with the nuclear industry and other stakeholders as appropriate. I join Commissioner Merrifield in cautioning staff to identify and implement technology that works, but that is not cost prohibitive with regard to initial costs and the required maintenance or upgrading of the system. I was surprised that secure caller-ID technology would be so expensive to implement and maintain, and would caution against large investments in communication equipment and technology that continue to rapidly evolve. In addition, it may be unnecessary to require uninterruptible power supplies for such equipment if the primary intent is to communicate imminent threat warnings prior to a possible attack and if authentication codes are also available as a backup. Therefore, the staff should seek long-term technological solutions that are simple, inexpensive, easy to upgrade, and coordinated with other methods as appropriate.

However, instead of supporting the specific solution proposed by the staff, I support the approach of using authentication codes without specifying their delivery method or refresh rate. I believe the staff should continue engaging industry to identify the most optimal and efficient method for using authentication codes. I would not rule out the possibility that other forms of code delivery (e.g. use of sealed envelopes), used for longer periods with appropriate administrative controls, may provide a secure and less burdensome approach. My support for the option of using authentication codes does not preclude the staff's recommended option if that is the one finally preferred by the staff and industry, and I would encourage using the initial experience with these codes to identify and implement future improvements.

Therefore, I support the implementation of authentication codes in a manner to be determined by the staff in consultation with industry.


Peter B. Lyons


Date