



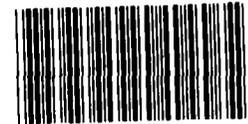
COMPTROLLER GENERAL OF THE UNITED STATES
WASHINGTON D.C. 20548

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September 28, 1982

The Honorable Nunzio J. Pallidino
Chairman
Nuclear Regulatory Commission



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Dear Mr. Chairman:

Subject: Approval of the Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Payroll System (GAO/AFMD-82-120)

It is my pleasure to approve the Nuclear Regulatory Commission Payroll system as requested by Mr. Learned Barry's letter dated July 15, 1982. The design, and its implementation, are adequate and in conformity with our prescribed principles and standards for pay, leave, and allowances of civilian personnel.

In evaluating the system and testing its operation, we examined the manual and automated aspects to determine their consistency with accounting and payroll requirements, and the existence and adequacy of (1) user documentation; (2) the internal controls related to the authorization, approval, processing, and reporting of events which affect entitlements; (3) audit trails; and (4) data integrity.

The integrity of an on-line system such as the Commission's ultimately rests with the establishment and maintenance of an effective system of access control. We found that the Commission has established a reliable system of passwords by which to accomplish this. We urge that strict management oversight be maintained in this critical area because if the controls over system access become lax, the integrity of the data residing in the data base is compromised.

To maintain the approved status of the system, planned changes should be discussed with our representatives and, if deemed significant, submitted formally for approval.

We suggest that the Commission's internal auditors periodically review the system in operation to assure that it is in accordance with the approval. At some future date we will again examine selected aspects of the system and advise you as to whether it is functioning effectively and in accordance with the approval.

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Please express our appreciation to your staff for their cooperation during our evaluation.

Sincerely yours,

Handwritten signature of Charles A. Broshy in cursive script.

Comptroller General
of the United States

cc: Mr. James J. Cummings
Director, Office of Inspector
and Auditor
Nuclear Regulatory Commission