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Kicking Off the NUREG-0654 / FEMA-REP-I Revision

The U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) and The Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) recently started a multi-year initiative to update the onsite and offsite Emergency Preparedness (EP) program guidance in NUREG-0654/FEMA-REP-I, "Criteria for Preparation and Evaluation of Radiological Emergency Response Plans and Preparedness in Support of Nuclear Power Plants,"

The NRC and FEMA will offer multiple opportunities for both formal and informal comments on the revision from the very beginning.

To begin planning for the revision, NRC and FEMA held two public meetings during the summer. The first meeting was held in Kansas City, MO and the second meeting was held at NRC Headquarters in Rockville, MD.

Both meetings were held to discuss the process for conducting the revision, review the enhancement areas being proposed and answer questions about the revision process and guidance documents.

The agencies also outlined the next steps in the revision process and informed members of the public where they are able to provide input. Representatives

from various stakeholder organizations, including the Conference of Radiation Control Program Directors, National Emergency Managers Association, Nuclear Energy Institute, Union of Concerned Scientists, and Three Mile Island Alert, provided recommendations and insights from their respective constituents. In addition, individual stakeholders and members of the public were offered the opportunity to provide their thoughts and ideas for the revision.

More than 100 people attended the Kansas City meeting and more than 80 people attended the Rockville meeting. Participants attended in person or contributed through webcast or via telephone.

Based on the input received, the NRC and FEMA identified several significant themes. One of the reoccurring themes presented at the meetings was the overall agreement that NUREG-0654/FEMA-REP-I was in need of revision that would include incorporating the current supplements and several other EP guidance documents into one document.

Stakeholders also expressed that public meetings and multiple comment periods on the draft revision are desirable and neces-

sary. Finally, many agreed that the proposed scope of the revision and project timeline were reasonable and that major stakeholder groups, where possible, would be requested to collect comments from their constituencies and then compile and submit the comments to streamline the comment process.

Several people raised concerns about the length of the project and how ongoing initiatives such as the State-of-the-Art Reactor Consequence Analysis (known as SOARCA) and Fukushima lessons-learned would be incorporated.

Stakeholders were also interested in the impact of the revised guidance on the continued acceptability of existing EP programs and the ability of licensee and offsite organizations to implement the revised guidance in light of other regulatory and guidance changes that may be occurring.

The NRC and FEMA appreciate the efforts of the participating stakeholders, and the public to make the meetings successful and informative for all, and the NRC and FEMA look forward to on-going interactions on the project to revise NUREG-0654/FEMA-REP-I.

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Proposed Enhancement Areas



Format & Terminology

*Various e-formats
508 compliant
clean-up edits
webbased software*

Engineering

*ETE, ANS, SOARCA, JIC, JIS,
messaging (including risk
communication), social media,
expanding EPZ*

Health Physics

*PARS, rad labs, mon/decon,
dose assessment, recovery/re-
entry/return, portal monitors,
KI, Pets*

Policy

*National Response Frameworks,
NIMS, EP rulemaking issues, NRC
Commission papers, PPD-8,
Fukushima lessons-learned*

Operational

*Letters of approval,
mobilization, MOUs, staffing,
authorities, PADs*

Training & Implementation

*SAT, implementation timeline,
deadlines, updating courses,
credentialing*

Assessments

*Exercises, plan reviews, inspections,
call-in drills, report-in drills*

Miscellaneous

*Items that are not defined
in specific category*

How Can You Participate?

The NRC and FEMA encourage people to share their thoughts and ideas about the proposed revision to NUREG-0654/FEMA-REP-1 through the docket available on Regulations.gov (*FEMA-2012-0026*).

www.regulations.gov is a website used by Federal agencies to collect thoughts and formal comments on proposed changes to current regulations and guidance, or new regulations and guidance. The site can also be used to search for original regulatory documents, and to view comments that have been submitted by other individuals.

Please remember that comments should focus on the process and proposed scope of the revision. The opportunity for comments on specific changes to the guidance will be available during the revision process itself.

FEMA and NRC will review your comments and suggestions on the path forward. This docket will remain open until December 31, 2012.



Any questions?

Please contact the EP Outreach Team:
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