

April 28, 2000

Mr. Robert M. Hallisey, Director
Radiation Control Program
Department of Public Health
174 Portland Street, 5th Floor
Boston, Massachusetts 02114

Dear Mr. Hallisey:

On May 24, 2000, the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) and the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) are sponsoring an emergency preparedness tabletop exercise in order to examine the emergency response roles and responsibilities of responding organizations, and to evaluate the ability of the NRC, FBI, and other participants to respond to a threat or act of terrorism at an NRC-licensed facility. This exercise will aid us in examining the emergency response roles and responsibilities of all responding organizations.

Since any such acts would also invoke an appropriate response from State and local government officials, the purpose of this correspondence is to formally invite you and other members of the Conference of Radiation Control Program Directors, Inc. (CRCPD), as you deem appropriate, to observe the joint tabletop exercise, "Cavalier Challenge," scheduled to be conducted in Lynchburg, Virginia, on May 24, 2000. While we do strongly encourage CRCPD attendance at this function, we, unfortunately, and only because of the large number of participants and observers expected at this function, request that CRCPD limit your attendance to no more than four members. Mr. James C. Hardemann, Manager, Radiation Programs, Georgia Department of Natural Resources, and past Chairman, E-6 Committee, Emergency Preparedness, CRCPD, previously made a request through the NRC, Region II Office, to attend this tabletop exercise, and we would prefer that you give consideration to extending an invitation to him under the auspices of the CRCPD.

Other exercise participants include an NRC Commissioner and senior managers, representatives of the FBI, U.S. Department of Energy (DOE), U.S. Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA), U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), as well as the applicable local government officials, and nuclear industry representatives. Participants will include players, support personnel, recorders, and observers. Players will represent the roles they would perform during a response to a terrorist or criminal threat with radiological issues at an NRC-licensed facility. Support personnel provide specific expertise as needed, and observers will monitor the table-top exercise while seated in a separate area. Cavalier Challenge is scheduled to commence at 10:00 a.m. (EDT) and terminate at approximately 4:30 p.m. (EDT) on Wednesday, May 24, 2000, and will consist of two major parts. The first part will include presentations by the players, not to exceed 20 minutes, by each of the participating organizations, in which their respective 'Concepts of Operations' for responding to a suspected act of terrorism will be summarized. Part two will include the implementation of an exercise scenario that will involve players responding in their respective roles. A brief critique will be conducted subsequent to the conclusion of parts one and two.

The joint exercise will be conducted at the Holiday Inn, Ballroom A, Lynchburg, Virginia, located at 601 Main Street. A block of rooms have been reserved by the NRC for anyone wishing to make reservations. Lodging arrangements can be made by contacting the hotel directly at (804) 528-2500 and request a room in the NRC Group. The room rate is \$64.00 plus tax, and the cut-off date for making reservations is May 12, 2000. In the interest of efficiency, a working luncheon buffet will also be available in the ballroom at a cost of \$10.95 per person, tax and gratuity included, payable in cash at the registration table at the outset of these activities.

We look forward to CRCPD membership attendance, and participation as appropriate, in "Cavalier Challenge," which I am sure will aid in further enhancing our common goal of ensuring public health and safety. Please do not hesitate to contact me directly, Spiros Droggitis of my staff, and/or James Hufham or Robert Trojanowski, NRC, Region II, Atlanta, Georgia, if we can be of further assistance in this regard. Mr. Droggitis can be reached at (301) 415-2367, e-mail: scd@nrc.gov. Mr. Hufham and Mr. Trojanowski can be contacted as follows, respectively, (404) 562-4430, e-mail: jwh2@nrc.gov; (404) 562-4427, e-mail: ret@nrc.gov.

Sincerely,

/RA by Frederick C. Combs Acting for/

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