

March 17, 2003

MEMORANDUM TO: Those on the Attached List

FROM: Richard H. Wessman, Director *IRA*  
Division of Incident Response Operations  
Office of Nuclear Security and Incident Response

SUBJECT: APPRECIATION AND OBSERVATIONS FOR "BUSRIDE II"  
RADIOLOGICAL DISPERSAL DEVICE TABLETOP EXERCISE

On January 29, 2003, the Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) Headquarters participated with representatives from Regional Offices, and other Federal and local agencies, in *BUSRIDE II*, a radiological dispersal device (RDD) tabletop exercise. *BUSRIDE II*, prepared by NRC's Offices of Nuclear Security and Incident Response and Nuclear Material Safety and Safeguards, in concert with the Department of Energy, pursuant to Commission Direction (SRM, M020528B, June 25, 2002), was the second of a series of two tabletops designed to examine NRC interfaces with other agencies for a RDD-type terrorist event. (*BUSRIDE I* was conducted on September 19, 2002.) Attachment 1 lists NRC participants and those from other agencies.

The objectives of *BUSRIDE II* were met. During the tabletop, participants identified issues to be addressed that would enhance the overall Federally-coordinated response. Attachment 2 lists the tabletop objectives and the issues that were identified by participants.

Thank you for your participation and support in making *BUSRIDE II* a successful tabletop exercise. Participant feedback has indicated that *BUSRIDE II* was a valuable communication and coordination learning experience for all attendees. As a result of your participation, and the observations shared, the NRC is better prepared to fulfill its role within a coordinated Federal response and meet the challenges presented by terrorist activities.

If you have any comments or questions, please do not hesitate to contact me at 415-7482 ([rhw@nrc.gov](mailto:rhw@nrc.gov)) or the tabletop exercise coordinators, Tom Kevern at 415-0224 ([tak@nrc.gov](mailto:tak@nrc.gov)) and Arlon Costa at 415-6402 ([aoc@nrc.gov](mailto:aoc@nrc.gov)).

Attachments: 1. NRC Participants and  
and Observers  
2. Tabletop Exercise Objectives  
and Issues

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- Attachments: 1. Tabletop Exercise Participants  
and Observers  
2. Tabletop Exercise Objectives  
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DISTRIBUTION: DIRO R/F  
All Participants Listed in Attachment 1.  
**ADAMS ACCESSION NO. ML: 030760815 (Package)**

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DATE	3/12/03	3/13/03	3/17/03		

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