

# STATE OF NEBRASKA



**Mike Johanns**  
Governor

## EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT AGENCY

**Roger P. Lempke**

Director

1300 Military Road

Lincoln, Nebraska 68508-1090

Phone: (402) 471-7421

24 September 2004

Mr. Bruce Mallett, Regional Administrator  
U. S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission,  
Region IV  
611 Ryan Plaza Drive, Suite 400  
Arlington, TX 76011-4005

Dear Mr. Mallett,

On behalf of Major General Roger Lempke and the Nebraska Emergency Management Agency, I want to thank you and your staff at the U. S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC), Region IV, for your participation in both the Cooper Nuclear Power Station dress-rehearsal exercise on 25 August 2004 and the Cooper Nuclear Station off-site (Federal Emergency Management Agency) evaluated exercise on 21 September 2004.

If a nuclear power station incident actually happened, the tension and pressures brought to bear on all participating agencies will be great. Only through previously established personal relationships and trust between Federal, State, and local agencies will all agencies be able to work effectively and efficiently through such anxieties and stress.

This makes the involvement of our Federal partners so important during dress-rehearsal and evaluated exercises. By working closely with the members of NRC's Region IV, we come to better understand NRC's needs from its State and local partners and NRC's capabilities to support State and local agencies. Personal relationships and trust between personnel of all participating agencies is built through such encounters and reinforced by the continued sharing in the exercise experience by all agencies.

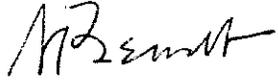
The comments and recommendations provided by you and your staff during the aforementioned exercises contributed significantly to building personal relationships and trust between our agencies as well as to the successful completion of the State portion of evaluated exercise.

I might add that I was particularly impressed with you and Mr. Bill Maier during the Cooper Nuclear Station off-site (Federal Emergency Management Agency) evaluated exercise on 21 September 2004. You treated the State representatives as equals and not as subordinate agencies throughout the entire exercise and this was very refreshing and welcomed and I thank you for that as well.

While I understand that NRC Region IV may not be able to play in every exercise at the Cooper and Fort Calhoun Nuclear Stations, I do hope that NRC continues to participate frequently with us at these exercises.

Again, thank you for your involvement and your support.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Al Berndt". The signature is written in a cursive style with a long horizontal stroke at the end.

Al Berndt  
Assistant Director

Cc: Mr. Bill Maier

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