The NRC Perspective

Patricia A. Milligan, CHP
Senior Advisor for Emergency Preparedness
Office of Nuclear Security
and Incident Response
301-415-2223
pxm@nrc.gov

Nuclear Emergency Planning
Harvard School of Public Health

Nuclear Regulatory Commission Mission

- protect public health and safety, and the environment from the effects of radiation from nuclear reactors, materials, and waste facilities.

- regulate these facilities to promote the common defense and security.

Post 9-11

- Increased focus on security at nuclear power plants and the impact of terrorism on both on-site and off-site response
- NRC and other agencies/organizations have been conducting comprehensive evaluation of NRC security & emergency preparedness programs
- NRC conducted vulnerability assessments for a broad range of threats to nuclear facilities.

Consequence Assessments

- National experts conducted detailed engineering studies using state-of-the-art structural and fire analyses and enhanced methodologies to predict realistic accident progression / radiological consequences
  - Large aircraft attack for at Indian Point unlikely to damage reactor core, release radioactive material
  - Studies confirm there would be time to prevent or minimize any radiological release, and, time to take actions to protect the public.
  - Fast release of radioactive materials is highly unlikely at Indian Point.

Exercise Requirements

- Licensee is required to periodically exercise the emergency plan
- NRC and FEMA evaluate a large scale exercise every two years (scheduled six years in advance):
  - FEMA evaluates offsite planning and response by State and local organizations
  - NRC evaluates onsite response and reviews FEMA findings.
  - Significant coordination effort by FEMA, State and Counties, and plant owner
  - Logistics in NY typically involve over 80 organizations and 500 people

June 8, 2004 Exercise

- NRC and FEMA evaluated emergency preparedness exercise at IPEC on June 8, 2004.
- Final findings of FEMA and NRC: exercise was successful in testing various emergency plan functions and performance of offsite and onsite organizations

.

Exercise Scenario

- Challenging:
  - Deliberate large jet crash into facility
  - Electrical power lost
  - Other equipment problems led to emergency declarations (ultimately a General Emergency) requiring protective actions off-site
  - Coordination with off-site law enforcement, fire fighters, other emergency responders

Exercise Evaluation

- Lessons learned strengthen overall preparedness:
  - Areas identified where plans can be improved
  - Lessons learned from exercise incorporated into plans/training
- Observations from exercise:
  - Licensee and offsite responders demonstrated proficiency in decision making and implementing plans.
  - Review/enhance initial processing and communication of threat information

Outreach Activities

- Many events/history that has shaped public opinion regarding Indian Point in the post 9/11 environment.
- Large volume of information before the public:
- What does it all mean? How does it come together?

Outreach Activities

- Training for State and County emergency management staff
- Briefings for State ,County and local officials
- Integrated response tabletop exercise
- Commission met with NY County Executives and Congressional Delegation
- “Information Center“ established on exercise day to discuss EP issues raised by media, congressional staffs and others.
- Participated with FEMA at public exit meeting
- Briefing with staff from Congressional offices following public exit meeting

Elements of Effective Security and Emergency Preparedness

- Onsite Security Response
  - NRC issued security orders to licensees
  - Force-on-Force exercise at Indian Point - July 2003.
  - Plant security-local law enforcement examined.
  - Force-on-Force exercise to be performed every three years.

- Integrated Response/Crisis Management
  - Onsite security interface with local, State, and Federal response.
  - HSC/DHS integrated response tabletop exercise at Indian Point in April 2004, key players from Federal, state and Local agencies.

Elements of Effective Security and Emergency Preparedness

- Consequence Management
  - Exercises conducted to ensure site, local, and State responders can implement their emergency plans
  - June 8th exercise included a terrorist scenario.

- Indian Point - first nuclear power plant to exercise all three elements

Summary

- Indian Point and all NPPs meet strict safety, security, and emergency preparedness performance requirements.
- Indian Point is the first site in the country to have three security/emergency preparedness elements completed: force-on-force exercise, integrated response tabletops, and emergency planning exercise with a terrorist scenario.
- June 8th 2004 emergency preparedness exercise was challenging, and IPEC and responders demonstrated proficiency.
- NRC will continue to assess potential threats to ensure that elements are adequately tested.

INDIAN POINT EXERCISE PARTICIPATION

Organizations Playing

NRC Headquarters Operations Center
Approximately 65 players
Reps: DOE, FEMA, USDA, HHS, EPA

NRC Region I Incident Response Center
Approximately 20 players

NRC Site Team
(EOF, TSC, OSC, JNC, State EOC)
Approximately 25 players

IP Emergency Operations Facilities
(EOF, TSC, OSC)
Approximately 70 players
- EOF facility will house the Incident Command Post for the exercise

Joint News Center
Approximately 20 players, in addition to simulated members of the media

State Emergency Operations Center
Approximately 80 players

County Emergency Operations Centers
Westchester, Rockland, Orange, and Putnam
Approximately 265 players

Cells Simulating Organizations or Functions

FEMA Regional Operations Center
Approximately 2 players

Department of Homeland Security
HSOC - Homeland Security Operations Center
IIMG - Interagency Incident Management Group
NRC liaison and controller
Approximately 6 players (at DHS)

DoD/ NORAD (1 player via telecon)

Federal Bureau of Investigation
(1 player in Federal Control Cell)

Incident Command Post
IP Security, NYSP, NY Nat'l Guard, NRC, FBI, Local Fire Chiefs, Westchester Co. PD
Approximately 20 players

Exercise Control Cells

Federal Control Cell (At NRC HQ)
6 controllers in cell, 8 in field

Licensee/State Master Control Cell
10 controllers in cell , 10 in field

Spokespersons

Federal Information Area
Central location to provide information regarding Federal activity that would occur in response to an event at a nuclear power plant, including events such as those featured in the Indian Point exercise scenario.

Representation from FEMA, FBI and NRC will be available.

Approximately 23 Federal representatives

NRC Liaison(s) For Elected Officials
NRC will accompany elected officials or their representatives during the a tour of onsite facilities and answer general questions regarding event response.

1 or 2 NRC representatives, based on number of participants.

Physical locations
- Westchester Airport
- Indian Point Site
- Various Locations
- Control Cell Groups

Other symbols
- Licensee/Federal Controllers
- NRC or FEMA Evaluated Activities
- Communication Flow

QUESTIONS?